

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 6th February 1925.

The House met at 11 o'clock, Mr. President (the hon. Diwan Bahadur L. D. SWAMIKANNU PILLAI Avargal, C.I.E., I.S.O.) in the chair.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924—

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Depressed Classes.

Vriddhachalam Taluk Adi-Dravida Conference.

* 157 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether he has received a copy of the resolutions passed at the Vriddhachalam Taluk Adi-Dravida Conference on 13th December 1924 and the action taken by the Government thereon?

A.—The Government have not received a copy of the resolutions.

Mr. R. SRINIVASAN:—"May I ask the hon. the Home Member whether the Government have since received any further resolution regarding the same?"

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—"I cannot find that we have received any such resolution. But the Labour Commissioner has received a communication in connexion with a conference which took place in January last. That is all I can trace."

Treatment of depressed classes by the Brahmans of Kalpathi Agraharam.

* 158 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASAN: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government received a memorial from the Brahmans of Kalpathi agraharams, Palghat, Malabar district, praying that no access should be given to Tiyyas, Eazhavas, Paraiyas, Nayadis, etc., to their (Brahmans) streets, as the distance approach of these classes of people would pollute them (Brahmans), their streets, dwellings, tanks and temples;

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(b) whether it is not a fact that similar denial of access to their streets was made by Brahmans in Sanyasi agharam in Tinnevely district, Kamalapuram in Salem district, and Narayanavaram in Chittoor district; and
 (c) on whose patta land the Kalpathi agharam streets are?

A.—(a) A memorial of the kind referred to by the hon. Member has been received.

(b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answers given to questions Nos. 45 and 362 asked at the meetings of the Legislative Council on the 18th and 21st August 1924, respectively. The Government have no information about the incident at Narayanavaram.

(c) The streets in Kalpathi agharam are registered as Government poramboke.

Mr. R. SRINIVASAN:—“ May I ask the hon. the Home Member whether, on receipt of the memorial from the public, the Government have issued an order in which the following paragraph appears:—

‘ The Government desire to reiterate that the public have a right of access and use in respect of all high ways, but it is not for them finally to decide whether a particular street or road falls within the classification. In the present case the Government observe that the Palzhat municipality have maintained the road in question and *prima facie* this appears to the Government to involve the position that the road is one in . . . ’ ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ Will the hon. Member kindly resume his seat? If the hon. Member is reading a long extract it is very much better to refer the extract which is very probably in the hands of the Government and confine himself to his supplemental question. He may now put his supplemental question.”

Mr. R. SRINIVASAN:—“ My question is whether that paragraph appears in the order? ”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—“ The answer to that question, Sir, is Yes.”

Mr. R. SRINIVASAN:—“ If so, whether the Government Order applies in the same sense as it applies to the cheris to all other parts like the streets of oil-mongers, etc. ? ”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—“ I see no reason to suppose that the Government Order does not apply generally to all streets in every municipality. That is to say the Government adhere to the position that with regard to all streets while they reiterate the right of the public it is not for them to decide finally whether any street or road falls within the classification of public streets.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“ With reference to clause (b) I find the answer invites attention to answers to certain questions given on the 18th and 21st August 1924. The depressed classes do not usually pass through Brahman streets. I want to know whether the Government have already found out the reasons why the members of the depressed classes do not usually pass through Brahman streets. Is it not a fact that owing to sentimental objections and strong oppression the depressed classes are actively prevented from passing through Brahman streets? ”

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Mr. R. SRINIVASAN :—“ May I know if generally the Government concede that untouchability and unapproachability have been carried to excessive limits so as to hurt the feelings of the depressed classes and, if so, is not the British Government wrong in tolerating that spirit? ”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ I am not aware that the British Government have done anything to lay them open to that accusation. ”

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“ Will the Government be pleased to call for the information with regard to the incident at Narayanavaram? ”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ I have no doubt that with regard to that incident the hon. Members below the gangway will not lose any opportunity of calling the attention of the Government to it. ”

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—“ The hon. Member has said that *prima facie*. . . ”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ Not the hon. Member but the Government ”

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—“ Well, Sir, *prima facie* the street in question is open to members of all communities. Does the Government leave to each community to contest in a court of law its right of access to it, or will it itself secure such rights to the community? ”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ I do not think that that question arises at the present moment. I may make it clear that *raison d'être* of this matter is that the local officers at Malabar asked us whether we had any instructions to give them as to the manner in which they should deal with any similar occurrence at Kalpathi; and consequently we issued the order. The Government view as a matter of fact coincided with the views of the local divisional officer and I take it that he will feel justified in adhering to his position when the question arises again and until the contrary is proved will treat the Kalpathi streets as *prima facie* public. The onus of proving that they are not public will, I take it, lie on the person who makes that claim. As hon. Members are aware, there is a reservation at the end of the paragraph quoted by my hon. Friend as regards the attitude to be taken by the local officers in practical and material support of entry into the street. But that does not mean anything more than that the local officers in carrying out their duties will be guided by the actual conditions of the moment. ”

Mr. T. ADINABAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ May I know whether the Brahman street at Kamalapuram is now at least open to the depressed classes? ”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ I am afraid I must have notice of that. ”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ With reference to clause (c) I find that the answer is that the streets are registered as Government poramboke. I want to know whether the Government are not going to maintain their policy and give equal facilities to all classes? ”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ Yes, Sir; they are. ”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ Then why are the members of the depressed classes prevented from entering those streets? ”

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The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" May I point out that the explanation is contained in the paragraph itself? The determination of the question whether a particular street is public or not will depend amongst other things on whether the municipality in taking over control has accepted or recognized any limitations on the right of the public."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know what the definition of Government poramboke is? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" I must refer the hon. Member to the Board's Standing Orders."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" May I know if the Government made enquiries regarding the question whether the municipality reserved any limitations as to the use of public roads? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" That is a matter to be investigated by the local officers."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" May I know whether the Palghat municipality contributes any sum towards the maintenance of this road? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" Yes."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" May I take it then that it is a public road and not a private one? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" That is a matter for the civil courts to decide. The Government have already stated that."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Who is to go to court, Sir? Is it the Government or any other body? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" I take it that generally it is the party that is aggrieved that goes to court."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Is not the Government the most competent authority to decide the matter? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" I am afraid not."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know why the Government will not move in the matter? "

Use of public wells, tanks, etc., by the depressed classes.

* 159 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state all the practical steps taken on or effect given to the resolution of the Madras Legislative Council passed on 22nd August 1924 with reference to throwing open all public wells, tanks, roads, etc., to all classes of people of His Majesty's Government?

A.—The Government have accepted the resolution and communicated it to local bodies and heads of departments for information and guidance. They have also directed the publication of the resolution in English and in the vernaculars in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and in the district gazettes.

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Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to the main question, may I know whether the Government are aware that the local bodies are actually not giving effect to the Government Order ? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" I have no information to that effect. "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" My own information is that most of the municipalities and district boards are not actually giving effect to the Government Order by publishing it in the proper manner so that it might be within the reach of the public. "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" Unless particular cases are brought to the notice of the Government that any particular officer has not reasonably obeyed the order, I cannot do anything. "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I point out that in the districts of Coimbatore, Salem and Tanjore, the publication was not sufficiently announced? 11-15 a.m. Are not Government going to enquire about it ? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" I cannot say whether the publication was sufficiently announced or not ; it is a matter of opinion. "

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasaya :—" Will the Government consider the suggestion that reports be called for from the district authorities as to how this resolution was given effect to in their districts ? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" May I remind my hon. Friend that the Government Order only laid down the policy of the Government ? No great purpose would be served by calling on the district officers to say how far that policy has been given effect to. We must wait until cases arise in which that order is departed from. When specific cases do arise, it will then be time to interfere. "

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I ask whether Government are going to allow municipalities and district boards to do things in their own way to the detriment of the oppressed and depressed classes ? "

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" In so far as it lies within their constitutional powers, the Government have every right to leave municipalities and local boards to take their own way. "

Jails.

Release of Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon.

* 160 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the Government have any intention of releasing Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon ?

A.—The reply is in the negative.

Mr. Anjaneyulu rose to put a supplementary question.

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" On a point of order. This starred question has been sent in by a friend who is absent. Under rule 2 'If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.' So it is not open to any member at this stage to put a supplemental question. "

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The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is not stated in the President's order that it is not open to any other hon. Member to put a question. If nobody asks supplemental questions at the time when a question is called and if the hon. Member who put it comes in afterwards and wants to ask questions, then it will be open to him, to return to the question, after all the questions have been answered."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, then it will be open either to him or any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions have been answered. The time to exercise that right on the part of the member who is absent would accrue only after all the starred questions have been answered."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think that is the construction. At any rate that was not my intention when I made the order."

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo :—" Have the Government any intention at least of reducing the term of sentence in the case of this gentleman?"

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" No, Sir."

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :—" Has the Government, in pursuance of the resolution passed by this Council, placed any conditions before him on which he would be released?"

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—" I am not aware of any recommendation to Government that conditions of release should be stated to him."

Convicts employed in jails to do scavenging work.

* 161 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the names of all jails with their respective places in the Presidency together with the number of convicts employed in such jails to do scavenging work, giving the particular sect or class or community or caste to which they belong; and

(b) if the Government have no information, whether they will be pleased to call for the information?

A.—Information is not available and the Government are not prepared to undertake the task of collecting the statistics for which the hon. Member asks.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to clauses (a) and (b), the answer is as follows: 'Information is not available and the Government are not prepared to undertake the task of collecting the statistics . . . ' May I therefore take it that the Government have no control over district jails since they say they have no information?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think I must intervene. The Government say that they are not prepared to undertake the task of collecting the statistics. I do not think the hon. Member is entitled upon that to ask the question whether they have any control over district jails. He may ask a question on the answer that has been given but not ask a question whether they have control or not which does not arise. They do not say they have no control."

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Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ My information is that in the Coimbatore Central Jail, out of 1,700 convicts, 84 belonging to the several sub-sects of the depressed classes were asked to do the menial work, though they do not usually belong to that profession. I want to know whether Government are not going to respect the sentiment of the so-called depressed classes who do not want to do that work.”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ I have no information that there has been any objection raised by any individual to doing that work.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ May I point out that section 87 of the Jail Manual lays it that no convict belonging to the depressed classes should disobey the jail order. If they do so, they would be punished. So they are keeping quiet. They could not raise any objection.”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ There is a great difference between disobeying a jail order and raising an objection. It is quite open to any convict to approach the Superintendent on his rounds and raise an objection to the task given him to do.”

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—“ May I take it that that section of the Jail Manual applies only to the depressed classes ? ”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ It is a perfectly general order.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ May I point out that it applies only to depressed classes ? If scavenging classes are not available, the other members of the depressed classes are ordered to do the scavenging work and, if they refuse to do it, they will be punished. May I know whether Government are not going to take any steps to rectify this evil even after my representation in this honourable House ? ”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ If any hon. Member wishes to suggest that the Government should revise a particular paragraph of the Jail Manual, it is open to him to make a recommendation to Government in the ordinary form of a resolution.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ He has not got any objection on the part of a particular depressed class to do this particular work. But it is common knowledge, and the hon. the Home Member also knows it, that complaints of this nature do not go beyond the four walls of the prison. Moreover, many of the depressed classes are very ignorant of their rights. Therefore, in the light of the information given by my hon. Colleague Mr. Veerian, will Government not gracefully call for information from the Coimbatore Jail and come to the succour of these dumb prisoners ? ” (Mr. R. Veerian : Hear, hear)

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ My hon. Friend in the second part of his statement has given his case away. His point is not that any one really objects, but they ought to be taught that they have a right to object.”

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—“ In deference to the legitimate fear expressed outside, will not the Government circularise to the effect that the depressed classes prisoners who are not used to the scavenging work ought not to be compelled to do that work in jails ? ”

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The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ I have already, Sir, on a previous occasion, made the announcement that in the ordinary course only convicts who are accustomed to such work should be employed on scavenging. I am not able to accept the suggestion that Government should take away the powers which the Superintendents now have in an emergency. When there is a shortage of persons of the class accustomed to do that work, others must be asked to do it. I am not going to expose the jails to the danger of insanitation on account of sentiment.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ I do not quite see the point. Suppose all the depressed classes are not such as are accustomed to do such work. Why should they—simply because they are depressed or we have made them depressed—be made to do that work ? ”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ The question has no special reference to the depressed classes. What I have said is that every one in the jail in a case of emergency could be called upon to do the work in the interests of jail sanitation.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ If every one is asked there is no objection. But I do not see why the depressed classes alone should be asked to do the work. There must be some mechanical contrivance to do this work without degrading people.”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ If my hon. Friend can produce a mechanical contrivance, I shall be only too glad.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ It is the duty of the Government to find it.”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ I have never heard of such a mechanical contrivance.”

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—“ Has not Government heard of flush-out latrines ? ”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ We have not got them even in the houses of the free citizens of Madras.”

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—“ The Corporation is insisting upon having it in every new house constructed.”

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“ May I ask, till the whole Code is corrected or amended, whether Government could do nothing contrary to the letter of the Jail Code now ? As to the section quoted by my hon. Friend, Mr. Veerian, to the best of my remembrance, it is a very general section, and any class can be compelled under it to do that work.”

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI :—“ I do not think so.”

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“ Till that section is modified, can Government do nothing in the matter ? ”

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“ If we are going pursue the discussion of the terms of the order in the Jail Code, I must ask for notice.”

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ May I ask whether they would announce among all classes of convicts in the jails the particular portion of section 387 of the Jail Manual regarding allotting of scavenging work so that the Government might see whether the depressed classes raise any objection or not ? Now

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they say that nobody raised any objection. Let them announce among the convicts that particular portion and then see whether they object or not. I want to know whether Government are going to do that or not?"

[For further supplemental questions and answers please see page 370 infra after question No. 172.]

Mr. Neelakanta Brahmachari.

* 162 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. Neelakanta Brahmachari convicted at the Madras High Court Sessions in the year 1922 is still a prisoner in any jail in this Presidency and to give a list of all the jails in which he was or has been living with periods of stay in each jail;

(b) if he is not in any jail in this Presidency now, when he was released or transferred to any jail in any other Province, for what reasons, under whose orders and under what circumstances;

(c) whether he was sick at any time in any jail in this Presidency and if so, for what periods, and what the illness was; and

(d) whether the questions of his health had anything to do with his release or transfer, if any, and whether his relations had any notice of his illness at any time or of the release or transfer if any?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the reply to question No. 43.

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasaya:—"Sir, on the former occasion, this question was answered, but not in detail. With reference to (b), we have got to know why he was sent to another Province, for what reasons, under whose orders and in what circumstances. These points have not been answered on the former occasion. May I know the reason why this Brahmachari was sent away to another province and under what circumstances?"

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—"I have not before me the answer to question No. 43. But as regards (b), if it has not been already answered, I may mention the reason why Mr. Brahmachari was transferred from the jail of this Presidency to a jail elsewhere, was that it was thought that he was exercising or was likely to exercise a bad influence on the prisoners in jails here."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"What was there in the conduct of this convict which led Government to think that he was exercising or was likely to exercise a very bad influence?"

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—"The whole history of his case."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"Is it the previous history before he came to jail or the history during the period of his incarceration?"

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—"His whole history from the time of his arrest."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"Will his removal have a very beneficial effect on the prisoners in the other jail?"

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—"That was the object. We are acting in the interests of the other prisoners in the jails."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"What sort of beneficial effect?"

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—"It will avoid exposing others in the jail to deteriorating influences."

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Acts.*Madras Estates Land Act (Amendment) Bill, etc.*

* 163 Q.—MR. P. PEDDIRAJU: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state when the Bill to amend the Madras Estates Land Act and the Land Revenue Bill are likely to be introduced in the Council and whether they will be introduced in the present session of the Council?

A.—It is not possible to say definitely when the Bill to amend the Madras Estates Land Act will be introduced. Regarding the Land Revenue Bill, the hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 15.

MR. P. ANJANEYULU:—“As far as the first part of the answer is concerned, may I know at what stage the matter now is and how often the Select Committee has met?”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“The Select Committee met once and directed that certain materials be gathered for the purpose of deciding one important question, namely, the jurisdiction of Civil Courts. It met again, and I placed all the materials before it, and it came to the conclusion that the jurisdiction of the Civil Courts should be restored in regard to certain sections. Practically that branch of the work is over. Then we have proceeded to discuss the other amendments.”

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasaya:—“Is it a fact that on the 17th December the Committee sat only for a few hours though it was called to meet for four days consecutively?”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“That depends on the decision of the Committee. If the Committee wants to adjourn, we have to adjourn. I have never asked them to adjourn. If they thought that they would do useful work after certain materials were collected and wanted to adjourn, I was entirely in their hands.”

MR. M. RATNASWAMI:—“May I know when and how long they will meet; because it is a question of public money?”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“The Select Committee are composed of Members of this House and other responsible persons outside it, and they have decided on a certain course having regard to the work before them. I am bound by what they say. I am only one of the Members of the Select Committee. If they waste public money, there are other ways by which this Council can express their disapproval of the waste of public money.”

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—“May I know who is responsible for the adjournment of the Committee?”

MR. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask whether it is not, instead of being a Select Committee, an *ad hoc* body composed partly of Members of this House and partly of those outside, whether the hon. the Law Member will convey to the Committee the sense of the House that, having regard to the fact that large sums of money are spent in travelling allowances, it would not be fair either to themselves or to this House that they should meet only for a few hours on a certain day and then adjourn?”

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The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I shall take note of the feelings expressed by particular Members of this hon. House."

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—"Will you kindly convey our views to the members of the particular Committee?"

Civil Justice.

Arrears in the High Court.

* 164 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the reasons why he has not yet issued any communiqué regarding the state of arrears in the High Court necessitating the increase in its strength and whether the Government propose to issue any such communiqué and if so, when?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clauses (a) and (b) of question No. 1354 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held in December 1924.

Criminal Justice.

Disposal of cases by the Additional Sessions Judge for the Agency Tracts.

* 165 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Law Member 11-30 a.m. be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cases disposed of by the Additional Sessions Judge for the Agency Tracts in 1923-24 and from April 1924 to January 1925 ;

(b) the place where he holds the sessions ;

(c) whether in addition to the sessions work any other work is done by him and if so, the nature thereof ;

(d) whether it is intended to make provision in the budget for 1925-26 for the continuance of this office ;

(e) whether the work now done by the Agency Additional Sessions Judge cannot be divided between the Sessions Judge and Assistant Sessions Judge of Vizagapatam having regard to their file ;

(f) whether for a few months in 1924, the Agency Additional Sessions Judge, Mr. L. H. Arndt, I.C.S., was in addition to his duties in charge of the Vizagapatam Sessions division when the Judge of that division was on leave ;

(g) the number of Sessions cases disposed of in 1923-24 and from April 1924 to December 1924 by the Sessions Judge and Assistant Sessions Judge of Vizagapatam, respectively ; and

(h) whether there is a proposal to abolish the post of the Agency Additional Sessions Judge?

A.—(a) Statistics for these particular periods have not been collected.

(b) The Additional Sessions Judge is a touring officer and may hold his court in or near any of the Agency Sessions divisions as the convenience of the parties, witnesses and police require.

(c) He does not attend to any other work.

(d) Provision has been made for five months in 1925-26.

(e) No. It cannot be done without detriment to their other duties.

(f) Yes.

(g) There is no information.

(h) No.

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Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“ With reference to the answer to clause (a) may I request the hon. the Law Member to collect and supply the information ? ”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ The number of sessions cases disposed of from 9th December 1922 to 31st July 1923 is 34 and the number of civil cases disposed of between 1st February 1923 to 30th November 1924 is 415.”

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“ Sir, there seems to be some mistake. Clause (a) refers to the work turned out by the Additional Sessions Judge of the Agency tracts. Clause (c) asks whether in addition to the sessions work any other work is done by him (Additional Sessions Judge for the Agency Tracts), and, if so, the nature thereof. The answer is ‘ he does not attend to any other work ’. The hon. the Law Member I understood to say that the number of civil cases disposed of by him was 415, etc. May I request the hon. the Law Member to explain the position ? ”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ That is the Additional Sessions Judge.”

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“ Arising out of the answer to clause (d), may I request the hon. the Law Member to tell us whether he intends to do away with this office after the period of five months as indicated therein ? ”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ We have not yet decided what to do.”

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—“ May I know why they have provided only for five months ? ”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ We want to see how far the necessity therefor was established.”

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—“ Is the Government going to examine the question whether it is necessary to have it or not after five months ? ”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Yes, Sir.”

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—“ May I know with reference to clause (f) why Mr. Arndt was placed in charge of the Vizagapatam sessions for a period of two or three months instead of appointing a separate officer for that court ? ”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Notice, Sir.”

Executive Council.

Reduction in the number of Members of the Executive Council.

* 166 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received orders from the Secretary of State on the recommendations of the Legislative Council to reduce the number of Executive Councillors ; and

(b) if so, whether they will place the papers or the order on the table ?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

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Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" Are we to understand that no order has been passed by the Secretary of State on the resolution of this Council reducing the strength of the Executive Councillors to three ? "

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM :—" That is so. "

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I request the Government to tell us when we can expect orders from the Secretary of State on the matter ? "

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM :—" That is beyond my knowledge. "

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I know how many times this Government have reminded the Secretary of State in the matter ? "

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM :—" No, this Government do not remind the Secretary of State at all. "

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo :—" Is it a fact that on no subject this Government reminds the Secretary of State for his orders ? "

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM :—" It is not usual. "

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" Has the correspondence in the matter been concluded or is it still going on ? "

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—" Has there been any correspondence in the matter since the resolution was passed or no correspondence at all ? "

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Is it possible for the Government to divulge what opinion they have given to the Secretary of State in the matter ? "

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM :—" I am afraid it is impossible. "

Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB :—" Was the recommendation ever communicated, Sir ? "

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM :—" The resolution of this Council was forwarded to the Government of India for the purpose of being communicated to the Secretary of State. "

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May we know the opinion this Government expressed on the resolution ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The Government have declined to answer that. "

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—" Have the Government any information as to whether that resolution has been forwarded to the Secretary of State or it has been stopped in the Secretariat of the Government of India ? "

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM :—" We presume that it has been forwarded. "

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo :—" What is the procedure for forwarding papers to the Government of India and what is the procedure of preventing papers stopping there if we cannot issue reminders ? "

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM :—" There are statutory rules on the subject to which I must refer the hon. Member. "

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Finance.*Malaria in Vriddhachalam, South Arcot district.*

* 167 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Finance and the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations were made to Government some years ago regarding the prevalence of malaria, in Kasba Vriddhachalam, South Arcot district, and requesting them to sanction a local allowance to the non-gazetted officers of that locality;

(b) whether it is a fact that about July 1923, the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras and the Director of Public Health reported to Government that the town of Vriddhachalam in South Arcot district was malarial;

(c) whether any order has been passed by the Government declaring it malarial; and if so, whether it will be placed on the table; and

(d) whether the Government propose to extend the scope of G.O. No. 778, Finance (*Fort St. George Gazette*, August 31, 1923), dealing with the allowances for non-gazetted officers stationed in the unhealthy tracts, to those in Vriddhachalam?

A.—(a) No such representation is traceable.

(b) A report to the effect that certain parts of Vriddhachalam were malarial was received in September 1921.

(c) A copy ^a of the order passed on reports received from the Surgeon-General, the Director of Public Health and the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards is placed on the table.

(d) No.

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—“In the answers to clauses (b) and (c) or rather in the copy of the order on the subject appended to this question we find:

‘The present Assistant Surgeon tells me that at the present moment, i.e., since the rains began, there is not a single house in any part of the town which has not got at least one malaria patient. I find stagnant pools all over the town and between the backyards of every two rows of houses.’ ‘As regards the two rows of houses north of the temple, most of the houses are practically empty and it is admitted on all hands that it is not safe to sleep even for a single night in the well-built and well-maintained Nattukottai choultry in the street north of the temple.’

“In view of these observations and in view of the fact that it will take some time to start anti-malarial operations, and carry them through, may I ask if the hon. the Minister will not consider the advisability or the feasibility of extending the scope of the Government Order to these parts of Vriddhachalam in the interval pending the eradication of malaria from Vriddhachalam?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“I may inform the hon. Member that the Government Order in question issued in the Finance Department. However, the question will be considered.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—“May I ask whether the Government have any intention of starting anti-malarial operations all over the presidency?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“There is no proposal to that effect at the moment.”

^a Printed as Appendix I on pages 432-442 infra.

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The Srirangam Temple.

The Srirangam temple.

* 168 Q.—MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the committee appointed by the Government to report on the question of urgent repairs to the Srirangam temple has sent their report; if so, what action, if any, has been taken on the report;

(b) if no report has been sent whether the Government appointed or intend to appoint any one in the place of the hon. Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur; and

(c) whether any report has been received by the Government from any of its officers at Trichinopoly as to the nature and probable cost of the urgent repairs that are necessary?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The hon. the Revenue Member having been appointed to the Committee by virtue of his office, no further appointment is necessary.

(c) A report has been received from the Executive Engineer, Trichinopoly.

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR:—“May I know the probable cost of the urgent repairs that are necessary?”

The hon. MR. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—“I am sorry I have not the information by me.”

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR:—“May I know if the Government propose to budget for the amount during the next year?”

The hon. MR. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—“I propose, Sir, to summon this committee as soon as practicable and as soon as I have an opportunity of studying the subject myself. It is a most voluminous one and I have not seen the report.”

Village Establishments.

Tanjore District Village Officers' Conference.

* 169 Q.—MR. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a copy of the resolutions passed at the Tanjore District Village Officers' Conference held on 12th October 1924 at Mayavaram; and

(b) if so, what steps the Government have taken in the matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Several of the resolutions are on the question of cancelling the recent re-grouping of villages. This matter is under consideration. The resolutions on other topics have also been considered, but the action suggested in those cases does not commend itself to Government.

MR. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—“Sir, I think there was a resolution passed at the Village Officers' Conference with regard to the frequent summoning of

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the village officers to taluk offices. Will the Government be pleased to issue a circular that the village officers should not be frequently and unnecessarily summoned to the taluk offices?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I think an exhortation to that effect has been given several times, and I do not know if it will be of any practical use to repeat it."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"Will the Government please see that their exhortations are acted upon?"

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"May I know if the Government will decide the matter of re-grouping before the budget discussion?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I cannot say that for certain. The matter is under consideration. There is also a resolution tabled on the subject. It is not possible for me to say now what will be done."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know how long this matter has been under consideration?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I think it has been under consideration from the time this Council passed a resolution about it. I cannot say exactly for how long it has been under consideration."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know what is meant by 'under consideration'? I suppose there are various stages in a matter being under consideration. If I remember right, the predecessor of the present Revenue Member was pleased to say that the only delay was on account of some hitch or trouble about providing their very places for men thrown out by re-grouping. I am speaking from memory and I may be wrong. I want to know whether that hitch has been got over and whether it has reached a further stage in the process called 'under consideration'."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"A Bill has been drafted and the Government have arrived at certain provisional conclusions on the matter. But as this Council has tabled a resolution on the subject the Government are awaiting the result of the discussion of that resolution before coming to a final conclusion."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"As the resolution referred to as tabled has very little chance of coming up in the near future and as the budget presentation is not very far off, may I, on behalf of the 17,000 men who have been removed from office, request the Government to expedite the matter? It is an exhortation more or less."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Certainly, there will be no avoidable delay in the matter."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"May I know in what respect the Government have carried out the desire of the Members of this House regarding cancellation of regrouping of villages?"

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether with regard to the cancelling of the re-grouping of villages the special officer has reported and that the Government think that an amending legislation is necessary before effect can be given to the resolution of this House?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"Yes, Sir."

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that period and according to the notification they will have to pay increased rate if they fail one year. Some of the students might have made provision only for the amount of money which they will have to spend for five years according to the then rate. Now, if in the middle of the course they are asked to pay more it will really be a hardship. Sir, Government ought to have known by this time that it is not possible, nay almost impossible, for the medical students to go through the course in five years; because it is generally eight years and usually it is ten years. Sir, we have got four University examinations to pass in five years and each examination consists of a number of compartments and in each subject we have got papers to answer practical and oral examinations to sit for and if in any of these a student is ploughed he will have to stay for six months more if not one year. It will be a very great hardship if you ask that student who is to go through the course for eight years or ten years to pay according to the increased rate. Moreover the examinations cover there a period of twenty days or so and even the bright students get ill by the strain of the examination and I have known cases where the students were detained on that account. I know in some cases in the course of the twenty days of examination death occurred in a family and stopped a student from appearing for the examinations. In such cases it is not reasonable to ask them pay more. The notification provides only for the whole term. Even if the student fails in one subject he will have to pay Rs. 100 for that subject while he is paying only Rs. 15 now. Taking these things into consideration, I hope the hon. Minister will see that the grievances of the medical students to-day are redressed. Sir, I know the hon. Minister has come down to do some good to the medical students and I hope he will also do the same thing here."

*The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"Mr. President, Sir, the recommendation contained in the resolution is to the effect that the students of the Medical College who before the issue of the notification for revised fees were admitted into the college should be allowed to study paying the fees at the same rate at which they were charged before the notification issued. As was pointed out it is true that the rates were at Rs. 120 before the notification issued and later on it was raised to Rs. 200. The reasons why the rates were increased were the same as in the case of the other colleges here, viz., that the rates were found to be low. Now, Sir, my hon. Friend from Madras has asked me why the rates in 1914 were low and later on they were increased and he asked me for the reason why they were increased. The reason is obvious."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"May I know whether the fees in the Law College were increased?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I am informed that there has been an increase even in the case of the Law College."

Mr. T. ADINABAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"Is it in the same proportion?"

*The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I am not quite sure whether it bears the same proportion, but there has been an increase. Sir, on account of these increases my hon. Friend has asked me if the college has not become unpopular. I must say that it has not become unpopular; because if you take a census of the students who seek admission you will find that they are too many to be admitted."

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sanctioned by the department concerned. If sanction is accorded, Government will see whether funds can be made available for this purpose."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, who runs this hospital ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" It is a Government headquarters hospital."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Why should Government depend upon public subscription ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The public are liberal enough and the Government have no mind to refuse such subscriptions."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" The Government may expect the public to contribute. But supposing the public take ten years for collecting their subscription, are Government to wait till then without giving increased and better accommodation to their patients ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Government maintain this headquarters hospital upto a certain standard of efficiency. If the public want it to be maintained in a better state than what it is now maintained, they must pay for it."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" Are Government hospitals less efficient than privately endowed hospitals ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" It does not follow from what I have said."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" Will the hon. the Minister call for the proposals urgently so that the items contained in those proposals may be provided for in the next budget ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The Government will consider the suggestion."

Mr. B. MAHABALA HEGDE :—" If the schemes are submitted, will then at least the Government be pleased to make provision in the next budget ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The question will be considered."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" Will the Government be pleased to issue instructions to local officers concerned to consult the views of the citizens of Mangalore who have contributed such a large sum before the former submit their proposals regarding the extension of the hospital ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Government see no objection to adopt that course."

Excise.

Report of the Excise Advisory Committee.

* 171 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) when he expects to receive the report of the Excise Advisory Committee; and

(b) the reasons for the delay ?

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A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 37.

(b) The reason for the delay is the nature of the problem itself.

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—“Will the hon. the Minister for Excise take steps to see that the report is published as early as possible as some of us are very anxious about it?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“I am as eager and anxious as my hon. Friend opposite in the matter.”

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—“That is not shown in action. I want to know whether the hon. the Minister is going to do something at least now in this matter?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“The Advisory Committee is making elaborate enquiries and the matter has to be considered very carefully.”

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—“There is no evidence to show that the Committee evince any interest in its work.”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“Crores of rupees of revenue are involved in this matter and as such it must necessarily occupy a long time.”

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—“May I know how many times the Committee met and what it did?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“The whole thing was answered once. If my hon. Friend wants me to repeat the same again, I shall give him the necessary information later.”

Prohibition of drink in the Nilgiri district.

* 172 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the arrangements made to help the Badagas and other hill tribes in the Nilgiris against the dangers of drink;

(b) the result of the experiment so far and the amount of loss of revenue, if any;

(c) whether the Government received a petition from the Nilgiris Temperance Federation that complete prohibition may be adopted in that district on the ground that no effort to help the people of that district would be fully successful unless prohibition is extended to all classes without any distinction; and

(d) whether Government intend to take any action on this petition and, if so, to what extent?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to paragraph 44 of the Excise Administration Report for 1923-24 placed on Editors' Table with G.O. No. 1836, Revenue, dated 27th November 1924.

(b) The experiment has not been in force for sufficiently long time to judge its results.

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There was a fall in rentals of Rs. 78,120 under arrack and Rs. 83,160 under beer in 1924-25 as compared with 1923-24. It is not possible to estimate how much of this is due to the experiment.

(c) & (d) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the answer to question No. 38.

FURTHER SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS IN RESPECT OF
QUESTION No. 161—vide page 359 supra.

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—"May I have your permission to make a further supplementary answer with reference to question No. 161 in connexion with the convicts employed in certain jails doing scavenging work?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Yes."

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—"The hon. Member who asked question No. 161 referred us to the Jail Manual which was not available and, in quoting it, he gave the House to understand that a certain section in the Manual provided that members of the depressed classes, whether or not they do menial services as part of their ordinary avocations, could be compelled to do such service in jail and could be punished if they did not do that work. I have since been able to get a copy of the rules and I find that rule 387 contains no direction of that sort. The rule says:

"In allotting labour reasonable allowance shall be made for caste prejudice, e.g., no Brahman or caste Hindu shall be employed in chukker's work. Care shall however be taken that caste prejudice is not made an excuse for avoiding heavy forms of labour."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"I should like to point out that I read that section very well and in fact there was a slip in it and I do not find that slip read now by the hon. the Home Member. In that slip it was mentioned if members of scavenging classes are not available to do scavenging work, the members of the other depressed classes are bound to do that work. It was so mentioned by the Government themselves."

The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP:—"I made inquiries whether there was any correction slip and I find there was none. The slip, I think, must have been in my hon. Friend's memory."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"May I, with your permission, put a supplementary question?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I understand the hon. Member was in his place when the question was being read and it was open to him to put a supplementary question then only, but he did not do so."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"It was for that very reason that I asked for your permission. It will not take a long time."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It is not a very serious matter if I allow a supplementary question to be put now, but I am afraid it will be a bad precedent. However, the hon. Member had better put his supplemental question as a fresh question."

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UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Arms and Explosives.

Cancellation of licences to certain persons in Bellary district.

173 Q.—Mr. P. SIVA RAO : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the District Magistrate of Bellary cancelled the licences for arms of

(i) M. Lakshmi Reddi,
(ii) Pedda Sanjiva Reddi, and
(iii) Chinna Sanjiva Reddi of Molagavelli village in the Alur taluk, Bellary district, without any inquiry and without any reasons stated towards the end of the year 1923 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said persons had enjoyed the privilege for a very long time ; and

(c) whether the said Pedda Sanjiva Reddi pays an assessment of Rs. 2,500 and an income-tax of about Rs. 400 to the Government and is also the Chairman of the Union Board ; the said Lakshmi Reddi pays also an assessment of about Rs. 2,500 to Government and also an income-tax of Rs. 200 to Government, and the said Chinna Sanjiva Reddi is the ' Reddi ' in office of the said village ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information.

Forests.

Grazing permits in the reserves in Vellore taluk.

174 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a number of separate reserves in some villages in Vellore taluk, North Arcot district ;

(b) whether it is a fact that in such villages grazing permits issued for one reserve is not available in another reserve even though the two reserves may be within the village limits ;

(c) whether it is a fact that ryots have their cultivated lands scattered on all sides of the village and hence are obliged to graze their cattle in more than one reserve to secure adequate feeding ;

(d) whether it is a fact that, in summer months, cattle grazing in one reserve have necessarily to go to another reserve for drinking water ;

(e) whether it is a fact that where cattle have to be grazed in one reserve but where they are obliged to resort to another reserve for drinking water, ryots are at present obliged to take separate permits for the same cattle for each reserve separately ; and

(f) whether Government have under consideration the question of allowing cattle for which permits were taken in one reserve to be allowed to graze in any reserve lying within the village limits ?

A.—The Government have no information. A special report has been called for from the Chief Conservator on forest questions in North Arcot district and the points now raised by the hon. Member will be referred to him.

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Prohibition of the removal of green manure leaves from the reserved forest in North Arcot district.

175 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state with reference to his answer to interpellation No. 1216, dated 17th November 1924—

(a) what are the reasons for the prohibition of the removal of green manure leaves from the reserved forests in North Arcot district;

(b) whether he will be pleased to place the orders passed on the subject in 1917 and 1919 on the table of this House;

(c) if removal of manure leaves is permitted in panchayat reserves, whether it should be taxed at Rs. 2 per cartload when some time back it was allowed for a seigniorage of only 5 annas;

(d) whether Government have considered the recommendations of the District Collector and of the Conservator, Third Circle, on the subject; and

(e) whether Government will be pleased to lay on the table the report of the Collector and the Conservator referred to in the Conservator's proceedings No. 40, dated 22nd September 1922?

A.—(a) & (b) The policy of the Government regarding the removal of leaves from Reserved forests was laid down in G.O. No. 1069, dated 17th June 1921, which was placed on the Editors' Table. No orders on this subject were issued by the Government in 1917 or 1919.

(c) The seigniorage was fixed at Rs. 2 per cartload by the Chief Conservator after discussion with the Conservator, in accordance with the orders of the Government mentioned above.

(d) Yes.

(e) The Government do not propose to place the papers on the table.

Land revenue and cesses remitted in wet and dry lands in the Presidency.

176 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state so far as information is available, district by district, or if that is not possible, for all the districts in the famine zone of the Madras Presidency, the total amount of land revenue and cesses remitted in wet and dry lands; and the years during which free grazing was permitted in the forest reserves, owing to seasonal conditions from the time the (Ceded) districts came into the occupation of the British Government?

A.—The statistics required by the hon. Member cannot be collected without undue expenditure, time and labour.

Abolition of the grazing reserve in the village of Holagandi, Bellary district.

177 Q.—MR. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the grazing reserve (poramboke) in the village of Holagandi in the Alur taluk, Bellary district, has been abolished and it has been assigned on patta to the depressed classes;

(b) whether the adjoining hill porambokes also have been similarly assigned on patta to the same classes with the result that there is no unoccupied waste within the village limits;

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(c) whether there are two reserves known as (a) Kanohagara Belagal reserve and (b) Holagandi reserve within 3 or 4 furlongs of the said village and whether they are closed to grazing ;

(d) whether the ryots owning cattle, sheep and goats in the village are put to serious inconvenience on that account ; and

(e) whether the hon. Member proposes to abolish the reserves and hand them over to the management of the Forest panchayats ?

A.—(a) to (d) The Government have no information.

(e) There are no such proposals before the Government.

Civil Justice.

Official Receivers for Sub-Courts.

178 Q.—MR. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government have any intention of appointing separate Official Receivers for each of the sub-courts in a district ?

A.—No.

Memorial regarding pay of peons, etc., of the High Court.

179 Q.—MR. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any memorials from peons, chobdars, etc., of the High Court with regard to their pay ; and

(b) what action he proposes to take thereon ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Scale of fees drawn by the Public Prosecutor, etc., of Bellary and Anantapur.

180 Q.—MR. P. SIVA RAO : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what is the scale of the respective fees drawn by the Public Prosecutor and Government Pleaders of the Bellary and the Anantapur districts, (i) for a day, (ii) for a sessions case, (iii) for a criminal appeal, (iv) for criminal revision or miscellaneous petitions, (v) when more than one case is heard wholly or in part in the course of the same day, (vi) for advice in a civil or criminal matter, (vii) for civil cases ;

(b) what is the total amount of bills per mensem drawn by them from January to October this year in the two districts ; and

(c) in how many cases during the last two and a half years the Public Prosecutor of Bellary was deputed by the District Magistrate to instruct the Public Prosecutor in the High Court and at what cost and for what reasons and in how many cases during the same period he was deputed to appear in the Sessions Court of another district or to appear before Magistrates' Courts in the same district and at what cost and for what reasons ?

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- A.—(a) Government Pleaders and Public Prosecutors are entitled to the full regulation fee irrespective of the result in civil cases. In criminal cases the payment of fees is left to the discretion of the District Magistrate subject to a maximum of Rs. 30 for each case which does not last for more than one day. No fee is payable for advice in civil or criminal cases.
- (b) & (c) The Government have no information.

Irrigation.

The Basavanna channel scheme.

181 Q.—Mr. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Basavanna channel scheme has since been sanctioned by the Government; if so, at what cost; and when the construction of the new work is likely to commence; and

(b) whether he will state the full details of the said scheme?

A.—(a) Yes. The estimated cost of the scheme is Rs. 4.24 lakhs including direct and indirect charges. The work is likely to be commenced in 1925-26.

(b) The Basavannah channel in the Bellary district is the first of a series of channels taking off from the Tungabhadra river on its right bank in British territory. This channel takes off above a masonry anicut called the Valvapur anicut and runs to a distance of twelve miles five furlongs. It is now proposed to extend it for a length of seven miles one furlong. The scheme is intended to supply water for the irrigation of 2,000 acres of new lands, to give additional supply to the Roya channel lower down and to ensure a steady supply in the Basavannah and Roya channels and also in the Kamalapur tank.

Police.

Police officers in the Presidency.

182 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of (i) Deputy Inspectors-General, (ii) District Superintendents of Police, (iii) Personal Assistants, (iv) Deputy Superintendent of Police in independent charge, and (v) Circle Inspectors of Police in the Presidency;

(b) whether any alteration in the number of each of the above officers is contemplated and, if so, why;

(c) how many officers of each of the first three classes are in actual and independent charge of any district, subdivision, circle or taluk and whether any change is contemplated in this matter;

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(d) how many are merely in charge of supervision or assisting other officers ;

(e) how many of each class were on special duty in the year ending with March 1924 and March 1925 and the nature of their duty ; and

(f) the report of the special work done and the cost of the same to the Government including that of the special staff, if any ?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the monthly list of Gazetted Police officers in respect of items (i) to (iv) and to the half-yearly list of subordinate Police officers in respect of item (v).

(b) (i) *Deputy Inspectors-General*.—No change.

(ii) *District Superintendents of Police*.—In connexion with the bifurcation of the Kistna district the Government of India have been addressed to obtain the sanction of the Secretary of State for the creation of an additional post of District Superintendent of Police.

(iii) *Personal Assistants*.—These have been abolished.

(iv) *Deputy Superintendents of Police*.—The abolition of personal assistants results in the permanent addition of a Deputy Superintendent of Police to the cadre.

(v) *Circle Inspectors*.—No change.

(c) & (d) The question is not intelligible. Each officer in charge of a circle is subordinate to the officer in charge of a subdivision and so is not independent. Subdivisional officers are subordinate to district officers. The actual postings of officers appear in the monthly list of Gazetted Police officers.

(e) & (f) Two lists ^a are placed on the table. The approximate cost of the special duty is included in the list but this does not indicate the actual extra cost, had the officers not been so deputed.

Mr. Happell's report on the Fituri has been published : Messrs. Hitchcock's and Cunningham's reports have not yet been published. The other officers were not called upon to write special reports.

Executive Council.

Appointment of an official as a Member of the Executive Council.

183 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state the reason why, contrary to the recommendation of the Joint Select Committee, 1919, the Government have appointed to the Executive Council a third member with service qualifications, while there are already two such members in it ?

A.—As the appointment in question was a temporary arrangement the recommendation of the Joint Select Committee could not apply.

^a Printed as Appendix III on pages 443-446 infra.

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Finance.*The Provincial contribution to the Central Government.*

184 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state, with reference to the speeches made by the hon. the Revenue Member (Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah) and the hon. the Finance Member during the debate on the resolution regarding flood relief on 16th October 1924—

(a) whether any legal opinion was obtained to the effect that the Devolution rules stood in the way of the Government of India granting the promised relief to this province in the matter of annual contribution to the Central Government; and, if not, the reasons why the hon. Members gave expression to such view; and

(b) what the attitude of the Local Government is in regard to Provincial contribution and whether the claims of Madras were strongly pressed at the recent Conference at Delhi by the hon. the Finance Member and with what result?

A.—(a) No legal opinion has been obtained in the matter nor do the Government consider it necessary to do so. Rule 18 of the Devolution Rules prescribes the method to be followed regarding the reduction to be made in the contributions of the Provincial Governments when for any year the Governor-General in Council determines as the total amount of the contribution a smaller sum than that payable for the preceding year. The question whether any reduction of the Provincial contribution can be made in any year depends upon the financial position of the Government of India.

(b) This Government have repeatedly urged on the Government of India on the necessity for the entire remission of the Provincial contribution and the Government of India have given an undertaking that they would shape their financial policy towards the reduction and ultimate extinction of the contributions.

Report regarding the Melur union board.

185 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Member for Finance and the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the final report regarding the irregularities of the Melur union board has since been received;

(b) whether the signatories to the petition or any other witnesses have been examined in connexion with the allegations made therein, and, if so, who they are and how many on the whole;

(c) whether any charges have been framed against anybody and, if so, against whom and with what result;

(d) who was deputed to go into the matter and whether the person so deputed had any personal, direct or indirect interest in the matter; and

(e) when were the accounts of the said union last checked and if the audit report and objection will be placed on the table of this House?

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- A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.
 (b) The Government have no information.
 (c) The answer is in the negative.
 (d) The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
 (e) The last audit of the accounts of the union board commenced on 17th October 1924, and ended on 20th October 1924. A copy^a of the report is laid on the table. The reply of the union board has not been received and will be placed on the table on receipt.

Government orders regarding supplies to officers on tour.

186 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Finance and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) what are all the Government Orders regarding supplies to Government officers when on tour, and whether the Government will be pleased to place them on the table of the House;
 (b) whether subordinates are expected to supply to their official superiors, or whether they are permitted to do so;
 (c) whether the bills for supplies are sent up to departmental heads;
 (d) what the average amount of expenditure of officers of each grade is as tested by the bills for supplies; and
 (e) what steps are taken to see that bills are in practice actually paid for and at the prevailing market rates?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the following Government Orders which have been placed on Editors' Table:—

G.O. No. 2487, Revenue, dated 15th August 1911, as modified by G.O. No. 2361, Revenue, dated 3rd August 1912.
 G.O. No. 1478, Revenue, dated 29th June 1916.
 G.O. No. 1300, Revenue, dated 5th May 1917.
 G.O. No. 1958, Revenue, dated 14th August 1920 (paragraph 8).

The existing rules are contained in B.S.O. Nos. 112 and 113.

- (b) Village headmen are expected to provide for supplies to officers on tour of articles that are sold or can be procured locally. No other officer is ordinarily expected to make such supplies.
 (c) & (e) The hon. Member is referred to the provisions of paragraph 2 of B.S.O. No. 112 and rules 4 and 5 in paragraph 2 of B.S.O. No. 113.
 (d) The Government have no information.

Famine.

Famine work-spot.

187 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of famine work-spots when the special famine officer was appointed;

^a Printed as Appendix IV on pages 446-447 infra.

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- (b) when they were first started ;
 (c) when they were closed ; and whether the closing was by the special officer or the Collector ;
 (d) whether there were any representations made to the Collector requesting the continuation of the famine works in certain localities ;
 (e) whether the said representations were considered by the Collector or by the famine officer ; and
 (f) whether the Government would be pleased to lay on the table of this House a detailed statement of the inquiries made in this behalf and the result arrived at ?

A.—(a) Nine.

(b)—

Works.		Date of opening.
Gooty taluk—		
Chikkalagurki		17th September 1924.
Uravakonda		16th August 1924.
Madakasira taluk—		
Muthukkur		21st August 1924.
Madakasira		10th May 1924.
Agali		16th May 1924.
Penukonda taluk—		
Kothacheruvu		23rd June 1924.
Nagalore		About the end of August 1924.
Dharmavaram taluk—		
Apparasacheruvu		11th August 1924.
Hindupur taluk—		
Lapakshi		26th August 1924.

- (c) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clauses (a) and (b) of question No. 1231 asked at the last session. The works were closed under the orders of the Collector.
 (d) & (e) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clauses (d) and (e) of question No. 1231 asked at the last session.
 (f) No enquiry was made of the Collector as it did not appear that any useful purpose would be served in making such enquiry so long after the event, as Government were satisfied that the works were properly closed and as they had no doubt that the Collector would have given due consideration to all representations received by him at the time.

The Peoples' Trusts Fund.

188 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the application for Rs. 25,000 to the Peoples' Trusts Fund, referred to by the hon. the Member for Revenue in his speech in the Legislative Council on 15th October 1924, has been sanctioned ;

(b) when the disbursement is to be made and to which of the taluks and to what extent ; and

(c) what the distributing agency is to be and whether non-official opinion would be considered in the matter ?

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A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The Collector of Anantapur was instructed on 23rd December 1924 to make immediate arrangements for supplying clothing to those in want in the distressed areas of the district making the fullest use of non-official agencies wherever possible. He was also asked to submit a report as soon as possible as to the progress made in the distribution. The report is awaited.

Irrigation.

Collection of penal water-rates in Kistna and Godavari.

189 Q.—Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the amount of penal water-rates collected in the Kistna and Godavari districts for the fasli years of 1327 to 1334?

A.—Particulars for districts are not available with the Government. Figures for the whole Presidency for faslis 1327 to 1332 will be found in Statement No. 9 of the annual jamabandi reports which have been placed on the Editors' Table. The jamabandi report for fasli 1333 has not yet been received by the Government.

Land Revenue.

Resolutions passed at the Conference of Mirasidars of Mayavaram taluk.

190 Q.—Mr. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a copy of the resolutions unanimously passed at the Conference of the Mirasidars of the Mayavaram taluk in the Tanjore district held under the auspices of the Mayavaram Taluk Mirasidars' Association on the 24th of October 1924 at Mayavaram; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

A.—(a) & (b) No resolutions of a Conference held on the date stated have been received.

Registration.

Substitution of the word 'Kudi' for the word 'Mirasidars'.

191 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether any instructions have been issued in the Registration department requiring the Mirasidars of Tanjore district to state their occupation as Kudi and not as Mirasidars and, if so, the reasons why?

A.—Government have recently drawn the attention of officers to the rule issued before, which has not been strictly followed, that the term 'Kudi' should be used in official documents when ryotwari landholders are referred to instead of the term 'Mirasidar'.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Village panchayats invested with powers over irrigation and forests.

192 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state the number of village panchayats formed under the Act of 1920, which are actually invested with powers over (i) irrigation and (ii) forests?

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A.—Three village panchayats have been empowered to manage turns of irrigation and a fourth has been empowered to control village forests.

Village panchayats in the Presidency.

193 Q.—MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of village panchayats formed under the Village Panchayat Act of 1920 in each of the districts;

(b) the nature and quantity of work turned out by the panchayats till now;

(c) the powers asked for by the panchayats and the orders passed on the applications in that behalf;

(d) what, if any, are the powers included in the sections 15 to 19 of the said Act, which are the powers actually conferred on the panchayats,

(i) before the budget discussion of March 1924,

(ii) and since then and on each of the panchayats;

(e) whether any rules have been framed under the Act; whether they have been communicated to the panchayats; whether the Government would be pleased to lay them on the table of the House;

(f) whether any panchayat conferences have been held in the last four years; whether they have communicated any resolutions for the consideration of the Government and if so, what they are and what action has been taken by the Government or is proposed to be taken thereon;

(g) whether the Government have estimated the revenue derivable by the panchayats if all the powers contemplated by the present Act are given to them and if so what is the estimated income and how and to what extent, if at all, it is likely to affect the finances of the local boards or the Government;

(h) whether any legislation is contemplated to curtail the scope of the powers that can be delegated under the present Act and if so the reasons for the contemplated legislation; and

(i) whether the Government have found the present Act defective or wanting in any particular and if so what it is?

A.—(a) A statement^a showing the number of panchayats in each district is placed on the table.

(b) The work turned out by panchayats is of a varied character. The methods employed and the quantity turned out also vary largely. It is difficult in answer to a question to give a description of the nature of the work done by all panchayats or to estimate the quantity of work done by them. The copies of * proceedings of the Registrar-General placed on the table furnish samples of the work done by one panchayat in the Tamil and another in the Telugu districts.

(c) & (d) Section 15 enumerates the functions which panchayats may exercise subject to such rules as the Local Government may frame. No rules have been framed as regards the functions referred to in clauses (i) to (vii), (ix), (xiii), (xv) and (xvi) and panchayats are attending to all or some of these functions according to the funds they are able to raise. Rules under

^a Printed as Appendix V on pages 448-465 infra.

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clause (viii) have been framed and under them many panchayats have applied to Revenue Divisional Officers and Collectors for transfer of control over communal porambokes. Rules and instructions have also been issued under clauses (xi) and (xii) and many panchayats are exercising these powers. Instructions as regards clause (x) are under consideration. The Government have decided not to permit the control of pounds by panchayats (clause xiv).

Section 16 enumerates the functions which district and taluk boards may authorize panchayats to exercise and has been availed of in a considerable number of cases. Taluk boards have generally complied with the requests from panchayats under clauses (i) to (iv) of section 16. A set of model conditions subject to which panchayats may be entrusted with supervision over board elementary schools has been circulated to both taluk boards and panchayats and a considerable number of panchayats are exercising this supervision. Some panchayats are running schools of their own and several have provided at their own cost accommodation for village schools. Three of them have applied for the introduction of free and compulsory education. Some panchayats have interested themselves in medical relief. One is running an Ayurvedic dispensary; another is maintaining a village vaidyan; and a third with the help of the taluk board is subsidizing a registered medical practitioner who visits the village once a week. Some panchayats have applied for the location in their jurisdiction of a dispensary under the new system of rural medical relief.

Only one village forest has under section 17 been transferred to a panchayat so far, but this is not a reserved forest. Other applications for transfer of village forests have either been declined or are still pending with the Forest department. A considerable number of panchayats are attending to irrigation functions informally or at the request of ayacutdars though Government have passed formal orders under section 19 only in four cases, in three of which they sanctioned the regulation by the panchayat of turns of irrigation, rejecting the request in the other case.

Panchayats have under section 19 taken over duties of various kinds at the request of the villagers including the building of places of worship and the conduct of festivals. The rules under which the Government have authorized panchayats to supervise aided elementary schools also fall under this section.

So far as the exercise of powers under sections 15 to 19 is concerned, the budget discussion of March 1924 is not responsible for any departure in policy or practice.

- (e) Rules have been framed under the Act and a set of such rules is communicated to panchayats as soon as they are constituted. One set is placed on the table.
- (f) Two Panchayat Conferences have been held so far, the first by the panchayats of Tiruppattur taluk, North Arcot district, at Nattarampalli in July 1924; and the second by those of the

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Anantapur district in November 1924. Copies of the resolutions passed at the former have been received and are under consideration.

- (g) The Government have made no such estimate.
- (h) No such legislation is in contemplation.
- (i) The question of amending the Act is under consideration. When the amendments are settled, they will be published.

Government Order on the administration of the Trichinopoly municipality.

194 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government permitted Mr. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib to publish a copy of G.O. No. 1771, dated 30th June 1924, while permission for publication of the same had been refused to Mr. F. G. Natesa Ayyar, the Chairman of the Municipal Council, Trichinopoly, with whose administration the Government Order mainly dealt and if so, the reasons for the permission in the one case and refusal in the other; and

(b) whether they furnished Mr. F. G. Natesa Ayyar, Chairman of the Municipal Council of Trichinopoly, with a copy of the reports of the Inspector of the Municipal Council and connected documents and called for his explanation, before they issued the G.O. No. 1771, L. & M., dated 30th June 1924, severely censuring the administration of the chairman?

- A.—(a) Neither Mr. Kalifulla Sahib nor Mr. Natesa Ayyar applied for permission.
- (b) No.

Planting of trees on roadsides in the Presidency.

195 Q.—Mr. M. RATNASWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total mileage of roads in this Presidency that are protected by avenues of trees;

(b) whether Government have any policy in regard to the planting of trees on the roadsides;

(c) whether the local boards have any such policy; and

(d) whether any, and if so what, sum of money has been spent by either Government or the local board on this item in the last five years?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to Annexure O to the report on the working of local boards in the Presidency for 1922–23 which has been placed on Editors' Table.

(b) The Government have issued instructions to local boards on the subject. They are contained in G.Os. No. 107 L., dated 24th January 1918, No. 2706, L. & M., dated 4th December 1923, and No. 1448, L. & M., dated 30th May 1924, which are placed on the table.

(c) Local boards use their own discretion in the matter.

(d) The hon. Member is referred to the annexures similar to that referred to in the answer to clause (a) above appended to the reports on the working of local boards.

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Amalgamation of Rayadrug Taluk Board with Bellary Taluk Board.

196 Q.—MR. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Taluk Board of Bellary has expressed its unwillingness to take in Rayadrug unless the resulting loss is compensated by the Government;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the proposed abolition of the Taluk Board of Rayadrug is opposed to the recommendation of the Decentralization Commission that every tahsil should command a taluk board;

(c) in what stage is the whole question; when are final orders likely to be passed;

(d) what would be the effect of the abolition of the Rayadrug Taluk Board in the constitution of the other taluk boards; whether it is a fact that all the taluk boards in the district have to be dissolved and new bodies should be constituted afresh;

(e) whether the Government propose to resort to nomination at the outset for filling up the vacancies among the members of the constituted boards or to throw them open for election; and

(f) whether it is a fact that the Taluk Boards of Hospet and Bellary will sustain a loss if Kudligi and Rayadrug taluks are (tacked) on to them respectively under the proposed re-arrangement?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The Royal Commission on Decentralization stated that "the taluk or tahsil will *ordinarily* be the best jurisdictional unit for sub-district boards" but they did not press for change where subdivisional boards had been working or might be made to work, *satisfactorily* by enlisting public interest in their proceedings. As the finances of the Rayadrug Taluk Board are not satisfactory, and it is not possible to improve them and make the Board work satisfactorily, its abolition is not opposed to the principle enunciated by the Royal Commission.

(c) & (d) The Government have decided to abolish the Rayadrug Taluk Board and reconstitute the taluk boards in the district as shown below:—

Name of taluk board as proposed to be reconstituted.	Names of revenue taluks comprising each taluk board.
Adoni	Adoni and Alur.
Bellary	Bellary and Rayadrug.
Hospet	Hospet and Kudligi.
Harpanahalli	Harpanahalli and Hadagalli.

(e) The Government propose to resort to nomination at the outset.

(f) No. The saving in management charges due to abolition of the Rayadrug Taluk Board will cover the deficit in the revenues of the Hospet and Bellary Taluk Boards consequent on the addition of Kudligi and Rayadrug taluks respectively.

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Medical.*Evidence in a case of alleged enucleation of the eyeball of some person.*

197 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Major Wright and Dr. Verghese gave evidence for the prosecution in the case against some of the relatives of the Zamindar of Palghat for alleged enucleation of the eyeball of some person;

(b) whether Major Gray, I.M.S., appeared as a witness for the defence in the same case and his evidence was not accepted by the trying magistrate; and

(c) whether the Medical Council or the Government have taken steps to enquire into the circumstances under which such evidence was given?

A.—(a) Major R. E. Wright, I.M.S., gave evidence in the case as a Court witness at the instance of the prosecution. Dr. A. N. Verghese gave evidence as a witness for the prosecution.

(b) The answer is in the affirmative.

(c) The Government have made enquiries into the matter.

Education.*Government training centre for women in the Guntur district.*

198 Q.—Mr. P. ANJANEYALU: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether he is aware that there is no Government training centre for women in the Guntur district?

A.—There is one Government training school for Muhammadan women in the district. In addition there are three aided Mission training schools for women.

Registration.*Indian Christians in the Registration Department.*

199 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state with reference to question No. 706 (pages 856—858, Proceedings, Volume XVII)—

(a) the standards fixed to measure the extent of representation to which each community is entitled;

(b) the proportion of Indian Christians in the Registration Department that justifies the statement that the community is over-represented; and

(c) on what principle representation or over-representation is estimated?

A.—(a) & (c) With reference to the principles enunciated in G.O. No. 658, Public, dated the 15th August 1922, it has been the aim of the Government to secure due representation to the several communities in the department on the principles laid down therein.

(b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 431 given at the meeting of the 22nd August 1924.

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Co-operation.

Audit orders on the working of co-operative unions in Coimbatore.

200 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Assistant Registrar, Coimbatore, does not issue any audit orders on the working of the co-operative unions in his district; and

(b) whether such audit orders are issued in other sections and whether the department has not prescribed any uniform procedure in this respect?

A.—(a) & (b) 'Audit orders' are issued in regard to societies the net profits of which have to be determined by the Assistant Registrar. In the case of unions there is no question of determining net profits, so no 'audit orders' are issued though the accounts are duly audited.

As there is a difference between the two cases, a uniform procedure is not applicable.

Direct recruitment of Assistant Registrars of Co-operative department.

201 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state how many Assistant Registrars, other than Deputy Collectors, have been directly recruited from outside the Co-operative department and how many from among the subordinates of the department.

A.—Nine and two respectively.

Safeguards against frauds in primary co-operative societies.

202 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any checks against fraud being practised by the secretary or panchayatdars of primary co-operative societies and other co-operative institutions against pro-notes and bonds being obtained in pseudonymous names and if so, what they are;

(b) whether the Government have made enquiries as to the occurrences of such cases in each district and if so the result of such enquiries; and

(c) what is the total number of cases, if any, in the whole Presidency, of such cases and how many, if at all, were dealt with under the criminal law?

A.—(a) No special check has been prescribed. Proper management and supervision of societies in accordance with recognized co-operative principles may be expected to make such frauds difficult.

(b) No.

(c) The Government have no information.

Properly statements in the case of primary co-operative societies.

203 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) how often property statements are to be prepared, revised or checked and by whom, in the case of primary co-operative societies in any given period;

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(b) whether there is any check to guarantee that there is no exaggeration in the said statement

(c) whether there is any by-law or rule that property statements should be revised (i) every time a loan is applied for, (ii) every time there is fall in membership owing to death, resignation or expulsion, (iii) every year; if so, whether the by-law or rule is being strictly observed in practice;

(d) whether all the inspectors are required by rules to send notes of their inspection of societies to the financial banks and whether such directions, if any, are followed in practice; and

(e) what steps, if any, are contemplated by the Government to improve the security for the loan advanced to primary societies by putting all financing banks in better touch with the actual position of the primary societies?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government understand that departmental instructions are to the effect that property statements should, if possible, be prepared at a general body meeting or at least in the presence of as many members as possible. The advice and help of the village officers should be invited for the correct preparation of the statements. The statements should be revised every year, i.e., once a year. They should be brought for the consideration of the general body and the case of each member should be considered. Any alteration that is necessary should be made; and, if no alteration is considered necessary, that fact should be mentioned in the register itself.

(c) The hon. Member is referred to Rule VII (c) of the rules issued under section 43 of the Co-operative Societies Act, 1912. Every endeavour is made to enforce the rule.

(d) There are no such rules.

(e) The Government do not propose to take any steps. The directors of a financing bank can at any time inspect primary societies which the bank has financed, in order to ascertain whether the money lent by the bank to the society is safe.

II

MOTION FOR THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE TO DISCUSS THE RIGOROUS COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE IN THE TANJORE DISTRICT.

[Note.—The asterisk at the beginning of each speech indicates revision by the Member.]

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ Under Standing Order No. 20 I beg to move the adjournment of the business of the Council to consider an urgent matter of public importance, namely, the situation created in the Tanjore district by the rigorous collection of the enhanced land revenue even for lands that have not been cultivated and before any orders have been passed on the remission applications in the present famine-stricken condition of the district a large extent of land being uncultivated and the yield of the cultivated lands being very much below the normal.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Hon. Members have heard the terms of the statement. I have to find first of all whether the matter is in order. Do the Government wish to say anything? (After a pause). There might be an objection under sub-clause (4) of Rule 12 which says that the motion

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must not anticipate or must not be one which has been previously appointed for consideration or with reference to which notice of motion has been previously given. There is on the agenda paper a notice of resolution, No. 18, but I understand that the hon. Member who gave notice of that motion has cancelled his notice, but that does not mean that nobody else can move the same motion. If any other Member is interested in bringing up that motion, it may be taken up. For all other purposes that notice has been effectively cancelled. Moreover I understand that motion was for the suspension of revenue. This is for remission."

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" This is to consider the situation. It is much wider."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think the matter is in order. I have just read the statement and I shall ask whether the Member has the leave of the Council. Objection is not taken. I therefore intimate that the motion will be taken at the prescribed time, i.e., 2-30 p.m. to-day."

(A voice : 2-30 p.m. to-morrow.)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The House has to come to an agreement in the matter. I think there is a committee to-morrow."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Though this is a matter in which I have nothing to say, yet I think the discussion may take place to-day for this reason, namely, there is a meeting of the Select Committee on the Malabar Tenancy Bill to-morrow subject to the disposal of Civil Courts Bill and certain supplemental grants which will be moved to-morrow. As the Malabar Tenancy Bill Committee consists of 30 Members and as their presence will be essential in that committee, I think this motion might be discussed to-day, unless those Members are so much interested that they would have these resolutions discussed to-day."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" The hon. Member in charge of the Malabar Tenancy Bill said that it would take at least a week for the Select Committee to discuss the Bill. I do not see any meaning in sitting to-morrow and doing some patch-work in two or three hours and then adjourning the sitting for a long time. I do not know who fixed up to-morrow for the meeting of the Select Committee."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I am the Chairman of the Committee and I have fixed up to-morrow."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Anyhow the majority of us on this side of the House are inclined to take up the adjournment motion only to-morrow since we are not willing to forego a part of this non-official day for that purpose."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I beg to submit that Saturdays are generally fixed up for private engagements. As a matter of fact many of us have given notice of several resolutions which are of a very important and urgent nature. The ballot has favoured us this time, so that, by allowing this adjournment motion to go forward to-day, we are really depriving ourselves of a very valuable privilege. But even the deprivation of that privilege is far better than sitting to-morrow, since most of us on this side of the House have got an important engagement; we have got to attend the subjects committee meeting of our Federation. Moreover the adjournment motion is very urgent and important."

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Has the hon. Member in charge of the Malabar Tenancy Bill got to say anything ? "

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The hon. Member, Mr. Adinarayana Chettiyar, said something about the Malabar Tenancy Bill. I did not understand him. May I ask him to repeat ? "

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" The hon. Member Mr. Krishnan Nayar, the Member responsible for the Bill, said that the Select Committee would take a week more or less for the consideration of the Bill. I said that there was not much meaning in sitting to-morrow for two or three hours and then adjourning for a long time. As regards sitting on from day to day with the Bill, I think I am voicing the feeling of the Members of the Committee when I say that they do not want to be in Madras, if possible, after Saturday."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" It is true that the Select Committee would take more or less a week to consider this Bill; but that is no reason why we should not sit and do some work to-morrow. As regards the other point that the majority of the members of the Select Committee are not inclined to sit on Monday and afterwards that can be only known when the committee meets to-morrow. Of course, the wishes of the majority must be complied with, but all that I say is that it must be left to the committee which meets to-morrow."

MR. C. GOPALA MENON :—" Sir, is there any certainty that the Government business with the Civil Courts Bill and the supplementary grants will be finished to-morrow before noon? If not, we will have to sit in the afternoon also. But I understand from the mover of the adjournment motion that the matter is very important and urgent and therefore I submit that we would like to have it discussed to-day."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" I daresay that, though the motion relates to an urgent and important matter, it can wait for twenty-four hours. If this is allowed to be taken up to-day, non-officials will be deprived of half a day. To-morrow will be a more convenient day."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" Sir, once in a life-time we get an opportunity to move resolutions. The hon. Member for Chingleput said that Saturdays are fixed up with private engagements. I submit, Sir, that such private engagements must not be allowed to stand in our way."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Much as I should wish to defer to the requests of some hon. Members that Saturday should be free I should like to say that we do that only when the sitting is prolonged beyond a week. If the sitting is confined to one week we work on Saturday also. On the whole I do not think there could be any harm in our taking up this motion to-morrow afternoon at 2-30."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I have only one thing to say. Most of us on this side of the House are bound to be away to-morrow afternoon. I only wish that it may not be misunderstood."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That again is very unfortunate. On a previous occasion we adjourned in order to facilitate the holding of a political

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meeting or some other kind of meeting outside the Council. Subsequently there was a similar demand on another similar occasion. I do not think that we should take notice of such meetings. But if it is a fact that most of the hon. Members on that side of the House will be absent to-morrow, that is a point to be considered by the mover of the debate."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I am not asking that the debate may be postponed. I only wish to explain the position so that neither you nor the hon. Members opposite may misunderstand us."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—" Sir, I submit that if you are pleased to revise your decision, we may have the debate even to-day. It is our duty to adjust ourselves if the hon. Members opposite feel any inconvenience. In these small matters we may so arrange that it would suit the convenience of the hon. Members opposite."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I thought the parties concerned would come to an agreement in the matter. It is only when there is no sign of an agreement that I have to step in. I have no objection to reconsider the decision. We shall take it up at 2-30 p.m. to-day."

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI :—" Does it mean that the House will adjourn to-morrow at 2 o'clock and there will be no meeting afterwards?"

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I do not expect the business of the House to take us beyond 12 noon or 12-30. The House will deal with the Civil Courts Bill and a few supplementary demands for grants. There will be no resolutions."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Could we not deal with the non-official resolutions till lunch hour to-morrow after the Government business is over?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" If there is time."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Could we not sit continuously to-day without formally rising for lunch?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have no objection if the House so desires. Does the House wish to do so?"

Cries of 'No, no, no'.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" May I know if there are questions for to-morrow?"

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I am told there are seven or eight questions. But these might take an hour, I cannot say" (Laughter).

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, I have to attend a meeting of the Board of Industries at 10-30 to-morrow and it might keep me on till 11-30. If before that time questions and answers are over and supplementary grants taken up I could not be here to move some of the amendments of which I have given notice."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is very much in the hands of the hon. Members "

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III

Non-official business.

MOTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST

REPRESENTATION OF THIYYA COMMUNITY IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

* Rao Bahadur P. RAMAN :—" Sir, I beg to move :

' That this Council recommends to the Government that provision may be made for the adequate representation of the Thiyya community in the higher grades of the Police Department, such as Deputy Superintendents, etc.'

" I understand (I speak subject to correction) that the number of assistant superintendents sanctioned for the Presidency is 30 and of deputy superintendents 40 or 41, partly directly recruited and partly reserved for subordinate police. There are also a few temporary and sub. *pro-tem*. deputy superintendents. Among these officers there is none belonging to the Thiyya community though it is a large and an important one with several educated and efficient members. Among them there are now four permanent inspectors and one acting inspector, all capable men who will fill higher posts with credit to themselves and to the community. I submit that in the absence of recruitment one of these inspectors can be promoted to the post of a deputy superintendent to begin with and two posts reserved for Thiyyas.

" The Thiyyas of Malabar have always been loyal to Government and they are ever grateful for the blessings they enjoy. But in view of the insistent demand for Provincial autonomy and Indianisation of the services I submit that the community deserves a place, consistent with the rights of other communities, in the higher grades of all the departments of Government for which its members are eligible. The hon. Member Rao Bahadur Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar in seconding the motion for Provincial autonomy on the 18th August 1924 said ' Provided that the interests of the various communities in our land are safeguarded we can have the highest privileges that can be given to any people under the British Empire.' And the hon. Member for the University said ' I agree that they ought to be protected, but the only question is what is the method.' So that I am not asking too much by this resolution.

" I therefore submit the resolution for the kind acceptance and favourable consideration of this hon. House and the Government.

" I wish to add a few words which I had not at first intended to say. There were amongst us some Deputy Collectors before. One of them did such meritorious work that the Government was pleased to grant him his full pay as pension. There are now four or five Deputy Collectors in active service. In the Judicial Department we had two Sub-Judges before. One of them was given the title of Diwan Bahadur. The other died last year in harness. My humble self retired as Acting Sub-Judge of Palghat. I mention these facts simply to show that when we could be trusted with the responsibilities of these offices, there is no reason why we should not be trusted with those of the Police."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" Sir, in seconding this motion which has been so very ably moved by my hon. Friend, Rao Bahadur P. Raman, I have to state

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that he is an accredited leader of the Thiyya community in Malabar and that he is also held in high esteem by the respectable members of various other communities.

12-15 p.m. "What I wish to press is this. The Thiyyas in Malabar form a very large percentage of our population numbering about 7 lakhs. Among them more than 11 per cent are educated. They are a very loyal class and they are seen in many different walks of life in the public service. Before the reorganization of the present Police department, the Thiyyas were duly represented as inspectors of police; and I am told that they have done very creditable service at times when Government was faced with risings and other things for which Malabar is specially noted. After the reorganization, I see about half a dozen of Thiyyas in the Police department as inspectors of police; some of them are prosecuting inspectors, some railway police inspectors and some are in the City Police. And about a dozen of them are sub-inspectors. Sir, I know most of these people have done very creditable service during the Mappilla rebellion, and to my great sorrow and to the great disappointment of the Thiyya community, I find that when many of the colleagues of these Thiyya members of the Police service are promoted to the posts of deputy superintendents, it is a great pity, I may say, that not a single one of them is given a chance of getting a deputy superintendent's place. Sir, the elevation of a Thiyya to the place of a deputy superintendent will be a very great encouragement to that community in general and to the Thiyya sub-inspectors in particular. With these few words, I have very great pleasure in seconding the motion which has been moved by Mr. Raman."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASAN :—"Sir, I beg to move the following amendment to this resolution :—

*'That after the word "Thiyya", the following words be inserted :
"Ezhuva, Cheruma, Parayan and Nayadi" and that for the word
"community" the word "communities" be substituted.'*

"Sir, to-day there is not even a constable in Malabar from the communities mentioned by me in my amendment. It is already admitted that the Thiyyas are already in the Police department as inspectors and sub-inspectors, and in such a case, I do not see what good is derived by confining the benefit to the Thiyyas alone. Therefore by my amendment, I wish to extend the benefit contemplated by the resolution, to other backward communities as well."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, I second the amendment. I welcome this amendment because I for one endorse every word that has fallen from the hon. Member that has spoken before, that Government cannot confine its attention to one neglected community alone. There are other neglected communities who have a claim on the appointments to the higher grades of the Police service, including, I should say, the Indian Christians. So, I urge that the claims of the neglected communities should be taken into consideration for the higher appointments in the Police department. With these words, I strongly second the amendment."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—"Sir, I should like to know from Mr. Srinivasan whether he refers to the higher appointments in the Police department or the lower appointments. From what I understand from Mr. Raman's resolution as well as his speech, this motion has reference only

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to the higher grades of the Police department such as deputy superintendents, etc. It is a well-known fact that among the Thiyya community there are several inspectors, sub-inspectors and other officers, whereas among the Cheruma, Nayadi and other communities there is hardly even a constable. Therefore I should like to know from Mr. Srinivasan whether he recommends the appointment of a deputy superintendent directly from among the Nayadis and others mentioned by him. If so, my point is whether there ought not to be a certain minimum educational qualification for holding these appointments, because among the Nayadis you cannot find one man who can read and write. So also among the Cherumas. It would therefore be meaningless if Mr. Srinivasan suggests that one of the higher posts should be given to one of these people at the outset."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASAN :—"The rules and regulations which we want to make now may not apply to old people like myself but they are intended for the rising and future generations. There are lots of constables from Malabar now in Madras, and they may be promoted. Their children may be educated and they may be allowed to rise to the higher posts afterwards."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—"Personally I shall be the last man to object to the spirit of this amendment. But knowing as I do the condition of these people, I am afraid it is too soon to hope for giving effect to this amendment."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR—"Sir, in speaking on this motion, I want to keep the resolution and the amendment thereto distinct, the one from the other. So far as the original proposition is concerned, that is, the motion of my hon. Friend Mr. Raman, I am in hearty sympathy with it and support it. The Thiyya community is one that contains many educated and intelligent men. There are circle inspectors of police in that community now, and as my hon. Friend the Mover of the Resolution stated, there were in the past Deputy Collectors, and even now I think there is one. (A voice: 'There are four'). There are Sub-Judges, and my hon. Friend himself was an ornament to the Judicial Department as a Sub-Judge. The community is also growing in education, so that there is no reason whatever why deputy superintendents should not be appointed from this community. After all, all that the resolution says is this: It does not fix the Government to any proportion, but what it requests is an adequate representation of the Thiyya community in the higher grades of the Police department. Therefore I heartily support that proposition.

"With regard to the amendment of my hon. Friend Mr. Srinivasan, I believe my friend knows my views relating to the representation of the members of the depressed communities in the public service, and my views are known to the Mover of the resolution as well. But I doubt very much whether my Friend Mr. Srinivasan realizes the consequences of his amendment to the resolution. Now, as amended, the resolution would read thus:

'That this Council recommends to the Government that provision may be made for the adequate representation of the Thiyya, Ezhuva, Cheruma, Parayan and Nayadi communities in the higher grades of the Police department, etc.'

"I do not know whether the Cheruma and Nayadi communities exist in other parts of India, and I understand from my hon. Friend the Law Member . . ."

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Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ On a point of order, Sir, may I know whether we can use the degrading and vulgar word ‘ Parayan ’ which has already been expunged from the Government records. I do not know why my hon. Friend the Mover of the amendment, Mr. Srinivasan, has forgotten to expunge this word from his amendment.”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ For the present, this word has been used in the amendment, and, like my hon. Friend Mr. Veerian, I myself thought of it and could not understand why Mr. Srinivasan used this word ‘ Parayan ’. Seeing that the word ‘ Parayan ’ is used in the amendment, I referred to that. My point was this: I do not know whether my hon. Friend Mr. Srinivasan or Mr. Saldanha fully realizes the consequence of the amendment that has been moved by the former. What the amendment asks the Government to do is this: to appoint members of the Nayadi, Cheruma and the other community already referred to by me (laughter) as deputy superintendents of police. To my knowledge, the members of the unmentionable community do exist in other parts of India, but the members of the Nayadi and Cheruma communities exist only in my unfortunate district. So far as I am aware, these two communities do not exist in other parts of the Presidency and to my shame as a native of Malabar I must admit that the way in which the Cherumas and Nayadis are treated is a disgrace to mankind. In the case of the Nayadis, they are not allowed to approach an ordinary human being within any reasonable distance. They have to stand at a very great distance and have to shout at the top of their voice begging for alms. It is not possible to find, as my hon. Friend Mr. Prabhakaran Tampam submitted to the House, one literate man in the whole community. In fact, even for begging for alms they have to stand at a distance of about three furlongs. As Swami Vivekananda once described, Malabar is a big lunatic asylum in this respect (‘ Hear, hear ’). When he was travelling in the district he found the Nayadis standing at long distances and shouting for alms. He made inquiries and he was informed that they were asking for alms and they were shouting at the top of their voice because they could not approach the members of the so-called higher communities. Then it was that he said that Malabar is a huge lunatic asylum”

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—“ On a point of order, Sir, can people from lunatic asylums be members of this Council ? ”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ There are sane men in lunatic asylums and lunatics in assemblies of wise men like this. That apart, my point is this. It is not possible, however much I sympathize with the members of the Nayadi community, for the Government even if they accept this amendment to give effect to the recommendation contained therein. It is only from that point of view that I point out this circumstance. The Cherumas are no doubt in a little more favourable position than the Nayadis, but they too are treated very badly. I believe that a few of the Cherumas are literate in the sense that they know how to read and write Malayalam, but I do not believe that there is a single member of that community who knows English.”

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—“ There is one member of the Cheruma community I know who has read up to the Fourth form.”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ In fact I would be very glad if he is in a position to be appointed deputy superintendent of police. But my point with reference to the amendment is that whatever the educational qualifications of this particular member of the Cheruma community may be,

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there are considerable difficulties in the way of the Government giving effect to this amendment. I fully sympathize with the spirit underlying the amendment, but I believe there are practical difficulties in working it out. If it is passed, then the Government would be given a handle in not giving effect to it, because it is actually impossible to do it. If the original resolution is passed, it leaves something which is possible to be done. If it is accepted by the House or by Government, we can in any case at least heckle the Government now and then and ask them why they do not give effect to this resolution and so on. But in the case of the amendment, this would not be possible. In order that something practical may be done, I would request my hon. Friend to withdraw his amendment. I am in hearty sympathy with and fully support the original resolution."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Is Mr. Srinivasan going to withdraw his amendment?"

* Mr. R. SRINIVASAN :—"I wish to say one word about the use of the word 'paraiyan' in my amendment which has been called into question. 12-30 p.m. My difficulty was that we do not call the 'paraiyans' of Malabar by any other name as we do in the case of 'Adi-Dravida' or 'Adi-Andhra'. We do not call them 'Malayala Dravida'. That is why I had to describe them like that. I thought we will not be in any way degrading them. I know there was a sub-inspector among the Cherumas and his place was made very hot for him and he was dismissed. As I said before we are not making laws here for any particular person or any particular people. We are making laws for the rising and future generations. That is my view."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"So the hon. Member is not withdrawing."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, at the outset I think I may say this, that Government do not propose and have not passed any rules or regulations making it difficult for any member of any community referred to to attain to the rank of deputy superintendent or district superintendent of police. Nor in the administration of the departments which I have the honour to administer can it be said, Sir, and I can claim that credit, I think legitimately, that persons legitimately entitled to appointments or promotion are not given that appointment or promotion by reason of the circumstance that they belong to any particular community. Taking this very Thiyya community into consideration, Sir, I think it will be within the memory of this House that not long ago a very well-known member of this community was appointed to a place in the Madras Small Causes Court, and it cannot be said that the representatives of the Thiyya community have been depressed in the sense of their not being given adequate opportunities and privileges for getting into the public service. They are represented amongst the highest ranks of the public service. It has been rightly pointed out by the Mover of the resolution and others who have spoken on this matter that amongst the Thiyya community there are persons who occupy and who have occupied responsible positions in the executive and judicial administrations. Therefore so far as it is alleged that this resolution has been or is intended to convey the idea that there is any handicap or obstacle in the way of the members of the community attaining the rank to which they are entitled by reason of their equipment, I do not think it can be legitimately claimed that there is any obstacle. But my difficulty in accepting the resolution in the present form is twofold. In the first place as I have already mentioned on another occasion acting on the

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principles which I have enunciated in this House we have given up so far as direct recruitment is concerned all initiative rights of direct recruitment in the administration of the Police department and have handed powers of initiative in those matters to the Staff Selection Board as a nucleus of the future Public Service Commission. That apart there is no doubt that neither the Staff Selection Board nor the Government in the administration of the matter will, if there is a competent Thiyya available for appointment, have the slightest hesitation in appointing him. I think I can say with the full sense of responsibility from my place as a member of the Government that if any Thiyya is found competent for the task, the Inspector-General of Police has never hesitated in making the recommendations on the merits of the candidates as apart from the communities to which they belong, due provision being made for other claims. Nextly I do not think that in the administration of the department the Inspector-General has been deterred by the fact even of seniority to supersede others if it is shown that there is exceptional merit and that policy has been ratified by the Government. Therefore if a gentleman belonging to the Thiyya community is found to be fit to become a deputy superintendent there will be no obstacle to his becoming a member of that service. But the hon. Member went on to give instances of certain people who may be forthwith made deputy superintendents. I deprecate that kind of argument, because it will be difficult indeed if members belonging to various communities should say, 'Well, there are so and so who are inspectors and who may be made deputy superintendents.'

* Rao Bahadur P. RAMAN :—"One of the inspectors may be made."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"It is very difficult in these matters to mention names or to make even an approach to mention names. I find that the seniormost Thiyya inspector is 'second-class inspector and his number is 86'. That being so it would be difficult to accept the proposition. When the seniormost man is the 86th it will be very difficult indeed to call upon the Government to make him a deputy superintendent. There are difficulties in adopting such a step."

* Rao Bahadur P. RAMAN :—"I only want that one man should be appointed, whether he is a junior or senior."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"All that I can say as a Member of the Government is that if a Thiyya gentleman attains to the proper rank and when he becomes a first-class inspector he will have his chance. Government have not accepted and will never accept any handicap by reason of birth. We cannot accept the resolution as it is framed, because provision cannot be made in the department for a man who stands as the 86th in second-grade inspectors. If what is attempted to be done is the initiation of the principle that Thiyya gentleman of merit and of the requisite seniority should not be debarred from rising to the highest posts to which they are entitled, that is a resolution which the Government can accept. But in the conditions of this case to accept this resolution will be to supersede all other persons who are inspectors of the first grade and who have acted as deputy superintendents. Having made absolutely clear that the Government has done its best to the community and are willing to do so when there is nothing to stand in the way of their doing so, I hope the hon. Member will withdraw his resolution."

* Rao Bahadur P. RAMAN :—"In view of the remarks of the hon. the Law Member I beg to withdraw my resolution."

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MR. R. VEERIAN :—" I object to the withdrawal."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" There is an amendment in the hon. Member's name and I will allow him to speak on the amendment. Mr. R. Srinivasan's amendment will be first put to vote and then Mr. Veerian's amendment and then the original proposition."

MR. R. VEERIAN :—" Sir, I beg to move my amendment which runs as follows :

' After the word "Thiyya" in the second line, insert the words "and depressed"; for the word "community" substitute "communities" in the third line.'

" As amended, Sir, the whole proposition will read as follows :

' That this Council recommends to the Government that provision may be made for the adequate representation of the Thiyya and depressed communities in the higher grade of the Police department, such as the deputy superintendents, etc.'

" Sir, my amendment is a very simple one. Sir, the members of the depressed classes are noted for physical fitness. Their loyalty is beyond praise. Sir, their character is also beyond praise. The extraordinary qualities that are required in the Police department are physical fitness, capacity and character. What more qualifications are required in the Police department to give satisfaction to the public and the Government? Sir, can we say that the members of the depressed classes do not possess such extraordinary qualities? "

* The hon. MR. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I never said so, Sir."

MR. R. VEERIAN :—" If the changes are given to the so-called depressed classes, I am sure it will work like a magic wand. Sir, in certain number of cases pollution also will vanish. If they want to encourage the depressed classes, the so-called depressed classes, Sir, here is the chance. Sir, I have no idea to feel the pulse of the Government. I am sure, Sir, that the Government are always sympathetic in words to the depressed classes. I do not say, Sir, that the Government show only lip sympathy. Their sympathies are always at heart. I do not suspect it. Sir, here is the chance. Therefore I want to say to them that all their sympathies should be turned into practical sympathy. We are quite tired of the lip sympathies. What I want is representation in public services. That is what I am asking here. Sir, I handed over to the hon. the Law Member very recently a list which contained a number of members belonging to the depressed classes who had done meritorious service and who have put in a great number of years of service. Their claims were ignored."

* The hon. MR. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I think in deference to the sentiments which have emanated from the hon. Member who spoke last it is necessary for me to make the position of the Government in regard to the depressed classes quite clear. I may say that both with regard to the Judicial Department and the Police Department, the two departments for whose administration I am partly responsible, instructions have been given that the depressed classes should be given special encouragement if they were otherwise qualified. In a recent instance my hon. Colleague, the Minister for Education, has appointed a member of the depressed classes as one of the Assistant Professors of the Law College, one whom I had the honour of

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having as an apprentice. It seems to me, Sir, wherever it is possible Government have not been behind hand and will not be behind hand in encouraging the members of the depressed classes."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I point out that several members of the depressed classes in the Andhra Desa who have done meritorious service and put in long years of service as sub-inspectors have not been promoted owing to the fact that the immediate superiors thought that there would be caste pollution? If they had been given opportunities they would have been superintendents of police and not deputy superintendents of police."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I think I must deprecate such a discussion as that, while I greatly appreciate the efforts of hon. Members like Mr. Veerian in pleading the case of the depressed classes. But there is one word that I desire to say which will be, I trust, of some little guidance and use. The effect of bringing out the cases of certain individuals in discussing these matters in this House may sometimes be quite the opposite of what the hon. Member intends. I would earnestly ask him not to do so but to put his representations before me and see what I can do in such matters. But to mention them in this House and to say that certain departmental superiors have not given adequate recognition of A or B because they belonged to a particular community may lead to that particular departmental officer becoming more critical than he would otherwise be. Therefore I would earnestly deprecate a discussion of that kind on the floor of this House. Let him not only appeal to me in the interest of the depressed classes, but let him enter my room and ask me why such and such a thing has been or has not been done. But let him not invite discussion on the floor of this House on such a matter in the very interest of the cause which the hon. Member wants to serve."

Mr. R. Srinivasan's amendment was then put and declared lost

Mr. R. Veerian's amendment was also then put and declared lost.

Mr. R. Veerian demanded a poll.

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"May I add one word and ask the hon. Member with all the earnestness I can command not to press his motion. I have said that, so far as the departments in my charge are concerned, I have given instructions that whenever it is possible these communities ought to be specially helped. I have said already that the rank of the senior Thiyya gentleman is No. 86 on the list, and the number of depressed classes among inspectors and sub-inspectors is practically nil. What is the use of this resolution at all? Is it going to affect anybody in any way?"

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"Have direct recruitment."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Does the hon. Member wish to press for a division?"

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"No, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. the Mover of this resolution has expressed his wish to withdraw the resolution. Has he the leave of the House?"

The resolution was by leave withdrawn.

[6th February 1925]

IMPROVEMENT OF IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE IN THE GODAVARI AND
KISTNA DELTAS.

* Mr. M. SEETAYYA moved the following :—

'That this Council recommends to the Government that a committee consisting of a majority of non-officials be appointed to inquire and frame a scheme for the improvement of irrigation and drainage in the Godavari and Kistna deltas.'

In doing so, he said :—“అయ్యా, క్రిష్ణా గోదావరి డెల్టాలు—సదరు రెండు డెల్టాలు గోదావరి, క్రిష్ణ, గుంటూరు జిల్లాలకు సంబంధించియున్నవి. ఈ రెండు డెల్టాల తాలూకు ఇరిగేషన్ డ్రయినేజీ చాలా దుస్థితిగానున్నవి. ఇరిగేషన్ ప్రారంభములో డ్రయినేజీ సిస్టం ఏమి చేయక యిప్పటివరకు అట్టి స్థితిలోనే వుండివున్నది. క్రిష్ణ యీస్టరన్ గోదావరి వెస్టరన్ డెల్టాలకు ప్రక్కను సుమారు 10—15 మైళ్లలో కొద్ది సరస్సు వుండివున్నది. సదరు సరస్సు సదరు రెండు డెల్టాల తాలూకు సుమారు 80 మైళ్లదూరమునుంచి డెల్టాలకు వుత్తరమునుంచి అనాదీయముగా డెల్టాలకు పూర్వమునుంచి కొన్ని పెద్ద నదులు యీ డెల్టా కాల్వల దక్షిణముగా వెళ్లుతూవుండేవి. అవి సదరు కొద్ది సరస్సులోకి వెళ్లుతూవుండేవి. ఇదిగాక సదరు డెల్టా కాల్వల తాలూకు డ్రయినేజీ కూడా సదరు సరస్సులోకి యేర్పడినది. సదరు డ్రయినేజీ కాల్వలుగాని నదులుగా వున్న కాల్వలుగాని యే విధమున యింపు పుమెంటు గవర్నమెంటువారు చేసివుండలేదు. ఎక్కడయినా చేసివున్నయెక్కడ దరిమిలాను బహుకొద్దిగా చేసివుండురేమో. సదరు కొద్ది సరస్సులోకి వెళ్లే నీరు సహ్యాద్రంలోకి వెళ్లుటకు బహు చిన్న కాల్వలు వుప్పులేర్లు అని రెండు వున్నవి; వాటి పేర్లు (1) పేరంటాలు, (2) జువ్వికనుమ అనే పేర్లు వాడుచుండురు. అంత చిన్న కనుమలు అవుటవల్లను సరస్సులో నుంచి కొన్ని నెలలకుగాని నీరు పోదు. సదరు సరస్సు క్రమేపి పూరిపోయి మరక అభిరుచు వున్నందువల్ల సరస్సులో నీరు పట్టక పయికి వెళ్లి సరస్సుకు చుట్టువున్న అనేక గ్రామముల తాలూకు శెటిల్ మెంటు వల్లం భూములలో నీరుపడి పయిర్లు నష్టము కావడమున్నూ ఆ నష్టముకు రయితుకు గవర్నమెంటువారు రిమీషన్ యివ్వడమున్నూ కొన్ని భూములు యే అంతా పంట పండినయెడల రిమీషన్ లేకపోగా రయితు వ్యవసాయ ఖర్చులకు యినా చాలకపోవడమున్నూ జరుగుచున్నది. సదరు కనుమలు యెప్పుడయినా కొద్ది మరపుతు చేసివున్నను అది యంత మాత్రం ఉపయోగం లేకుండా పోయినది. ఇదిగాక డెల్టాకు పూర్వం ఉన్న నదులుగాని డ్రయినేజీ కాల్వలుగాని పాడుగు వెడల్పు త్రవ్వడం కట్టలు లేకపోవడంవల్లను సాగుకు పూర్వంగాని దరిమిలానుగాని మురుగు వచ్చినయెడల సదరు కాల్వలకు యిరుక్కలను వుండే శెటిల్ మెంటు వల్లం భూములు పంటనష్టం అనేక విధములుగా జరుగుచున్నది. సదరు శెటిల్ మెంటు భూములు సదరు మురుగునల్లను యిసుక వొందురు పట్టి మరక అయి సాగు చేసుకొనుటకు వీలులేక చాలా కిష్టుతుగల భూములు నాశనమయి అయిపోయినవి. కొన్ని భూములు యిసుక వొందురు తీసివేయుటకు రైతు అనేక నష్టకష్టములకు లోనై వాధ పడుచున్నాడు.

“ఇరిగేషన్ కాలువలు—కాలువలు సరిఅయిన మరపుతులు లేక విశాలం లోతుకట్టలు లేకపోవడంవల్లను చాలా దుస్థితిగానుండున్నవి. సాగుబడి తరువాత నదులలోకి పూర్తి అయిన నీరు వచ్చినప్పుడు కాల్వలు దుస్థితివల్లను వదలవలసినంత నీరు హెడ్డుస్టానులవల్ల వదలకపోవడమున్నూ యెప్పుడయినా వకవేళ వదలినప్పటికి యే కాలవో తగిలిపోయి అది మరపుతు అయ్యేవరకు హెడ్డుస్టాను మాసివేయడమున్నూ అందువల్ల అన్ని కాల్వల

6th February 1925]

[Mr. M. Seetayya]

సాగుకు నష్టం రావడమున్నూ జరుగుచున్నది. సాగుబడి లెఖ యే నెలలో యెంత జరిగేది గవర్నమెంటుకు తెలుస్తూనేవున్నది. దానివల్లను సాగుబడి సకాలంలో కావలసినదానికి యెంత ఆలస్యముగా జరుగుచుండేది కూడా తెలుస్తున్నది. సకాలం సాగుచేసినదానికి ఆలస్యంగా సాగుచేసినదానికి పంట నష్టం అధమము 8 అణాలు వుంటుంది. వై సంగతులు రైతులు డి.పి.డబ్ల్యు. ఆఫీసర్లతో విన్నవించుకుంటే గవర్నమెంటు డబ్బు యివ్వనిదే సుమేమి చేయ గలము అని సమాధానం చెప్పడమే జరుగుచున్నది. నీరు యిచ్చినా లేకపోయినా పండినా యెండినా గవర్నమెంటు శిస్తు మాత్రం మానదు. రైతు దుస్థితి యిట్లుగావున్నది. సదరు రెండు డెల్టాలవల్లను నూటికి సుమారు 20 రూపాయలపయిన గవర్నమెంటుకు ఆదాయం వచ్చుచుండగా క్రిష్ణ డెల్టాలో ప్రత్యేకం ఆయకట్టున దరోనా సదరు డెల్టాల అభివృద్ధికిని చెప్పి కొన్ని లక్షలు యీ సంవత్సరం వసూలుచేయుచున్నారు. ఈ సంగతి యిప్పటి కల్చర్ సేవ్ వారు అందరికి తెలిసిన విషయమే. ఇంత సొత్తు గవర్నమెంటువారికి లాభం కలుగుచున్నప్పటికి సదరు డెల్టాల అభివృద్ధిచేయకపోవడం చాలా అన్యాయం. రైతుయొక్క దరిద్రం యాలా తీరగలదో చెప్పజాలకున్నాను గనుక నేను తీసుకొనిన చివర యీ రిజల్యూషన్ తప్పక ఆమోదించగలరని కల్చర్ సేవ్ వారిని కోరుచున్నాను.”

* Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“ I have great pleasure in seconding this resolution, and in so doing I may take this opportunity of reminding this House of the number of representations made upon all the points raised regarding the irrigation in the Kistna and Godavari deltas and specially regarding the neglect of the drainage system there. I daresay many hon. Members of this House and those on the Government side who had the good fortune to be there as Collectors will bear me out in what I say in the matter of drainage. They were altogether neglected for a long time, and my hon. Friend Mr. Sitayya, who is himself one of the richest ryots in my part of the country, has had not only peculiar individual difficulties but he represents the difficulties of all the ryots of the Northern Circars. As this matter was very fully threshed out during the Irrigation Bill discussions, I do not propose to take the time of the hon. Members, but I would very earnestly urge on the hon. Member on the side of Government to take this point into their very serious consideration and to give relief as early as possible.

“ The resolution simply says that we might appoint a committee consisting of a majority of non-officials, and there is a point in that, Sir. It may be common knowledge by now that it is only the non-official representatives of the people that will have more opportunities of knowing the disadvantages from which the ryots suffer than the officials. I may just in passing make reference to a small incident not mentioning the individuals or officers concerned. There are certain officials who could not be approached by the ryots at all; in a rare case if anybody dared to approach them, it will end in a fiasco and not infrequently in a criminal case. Government may therefore take note of such caprices on the part of the Public Works Department and other officers. With these few words, I have great pleasure in commending this resolution to the favourable consideration of the House.”

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, this subject was definitely raised and given special prominence during the budget debate in a series of speeches made by the hon. Member Mr. Peddiraju, whom

[Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [6th February 1925]

I do not see in his seat to-day. He advised Government to get the help of non-officials in discussing the matter and to arrive at an early conclusion. I may say, Sir, that from 1917 onwards Government have laid down programmes for drainage improvements and for irrigation improvements in the Godavari and Kistna deltas, and I have before me a series of Government Orders which I have issued in connexion with this topic. But at the present moment, so far as I understand the speech made by the hon. the Mover with my imperfect acquaintance of the Telugu language, I may say that the two chief complaints that he made were firstly that while there was a great deal of income derived from lands of these deltas by the Government, yet when programmes for improving the drainage and irrigation projects were put forward, want of funds were pleaded as an excuse. Well, all I can say is that . . .

Mr. B. Venkataratnam asked in Telugu what rate of income per cent Government realized from the irrigation system in the deltas.

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I cannot give the figures now. It is now true that in the Trichinopoly and Tanjore tracts on the one hand and in the Godavari and Kistna tracts on the other the incomes are undoubtedly considerable. On the other hand, hon. Members will bear in mind that irrigation schemes cannot be dealt with in that individual fashion. The Presidency as a whole must be taken into account."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—"I hope the hon. Member will remember that when the case of the Ceded districts is concerned."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Surely, if anything, the hon. Member from Cuddapah must realize that whenever he and his hon. Colleague put forward any recommendation with regard to Cuddapah they have received due attention from me, and as a matter of fact I accepted a resolution not many hours ago.

"But to go back. I was saying that there was no doubt of the fact that there was considerable surplus income derived from that particular project. But the Presidency as a whole must be considered. But what I desire to dwell on at this moment is that in connexion with the irrigation legislation which has been passed we have a number of boards, and these have to be constituted and they will have to function in many ways.

"They will have to function firstly in deciding upon the complicated
1 p.m. relationship between the ryots and the Government and the zamindari and the ryotwari ryots. Secondly, they will act as advisory bodies and will be constituted without any avoidable delay as soon as the irrigation schemes are fairly settled. It is therefore much better to go on these lines rather than by appointment of *ad hoc* bodies especially as in no very distant date we will have the other committees appointed. With that assurance I trust the hon. Mover will see his way to withdrawing the resolution."

Mr. M. SEETAYYA said in Telugu that he had no objection to withdraw the resolution.

The resolution was then by leave withdrawn.

6th February 1925]

SEPARATION OF JUDICIAL AND EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS.

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ Mr. President, Sir, the resolution that stands in my name runs as follows :

‘ That this Council recommends to the Government that effect be given from the 1st April 1925 to the proposals of the separation of the judicial and executive functions throughout the Presidency. ’

“ Sir, I do not think that very many words are necessary from me to commend this resolution to the acceptance of the House.”

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ May I make a statement which might probably curtail discussion ? As a matter of fact, in obedience to the directions of the Government of India we have sent up our proposals and the discussion in this House relating to the separation of the judicial and executive functions. About four days ago knowing that the discussion on the resolution will be coming up now, the Government of India were asked whether they had come to any decision with regard to the matter and they have replied to say that they have not yet come to a decision ; but I understand that they will come to a speedy decision.

“ I hope this statement will enable hon. Members not to make lengthy speeches.”

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ So far as I am concerned, the hon. the Law Member knows perfectly well that my speeches are not generally very lengthy.”

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I do not at all mean to allude to any person or to any hon. Member nor do I make any complaint on that score. All that I am saying is that the gist of what is wanted may be embodied in speeches.”

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ Taking the suggestions that came from the hon. the Law Member as my cue, I shall try and finish what I have to say as briefly as possible.

“ As I have been saying I believe only very few words are necessary from me, to commend this resolution to the acceptance of this House, for this is an old old, but none the less urgently needed, reform which had been urged upon the Government for over forty years by every public body but in vain. The arguments for the separation of the judicial and executive functions have been advanced *ad nauseam* for several years, but yet the unsympathetic Government has remained unmoved. In pursuance of a resolution passed by the last Legislative Council on 22nd September 1922, the Government was pleased to appoint a committee to consider the long agitated for question of the separation of judicial and executive functions, it is surprising that the Government have not yet come forward with their orders on the report submitted by the said Committee in April 1923. I trust sincerely that this Committee was not appointed by the Government as is usually the case with several other committees more with the object of yielding to the clamour than with the object of giving effect to any of the urgently needed reforms. The majority report, Sir, puts forward very simple suggestions with reference to this matter and as they explain, the cost involved in their suggestions is only between 2·5 lakhs and 3·75 lakhs. There is the report of my hon.

[Mr. P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu] [6th February 1925]

Friend, Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar, and the dissenting minute of the hon. Member, Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar, which raise various other points. I am only anxious that the Government should take us into their confidence and let us know what they are going to do with reference to this much-needed reform. I desire that Government should give an opportunity for the Council to discuss the various recommendations of the Committee and come to certain conclusions on them at an early date. I think it is only fair that before final orders are passed by the Government this Council should have an opportunity of expressing its views thereon. I don't know, Sir, whether it will not be possible for the Government to bring in, by way of a resolution, their proposals on the subject, and get the decision of the House thereon. As I have said several months have already elapsed since the report was published and yet there is no sign of the Government coming forward with any orders thereon.

"There are certain recommendations contained in the majority report with which I radically disagree. The proposal that the appointment of Stationary Sub-Magistrates and First-Class Magistrates up to Rs. 600 should vest in the High Court is a proposal which I do not think the hon. the Law Member, especially after what he has heard during the last two days, would accept. Is it too much to expect, Sir, that the separation of judicial and executive functions will be given effect to at least from the next official year? This separation is highly necessary for a really effective advance towards self-government. The Imperial Government having conceded that greater autonomy should be given and that local bodies should be invested with greater powers, is it not fair at least now, when the reforms have been in force for sometime, to expect that one of the steps tending to the advancement of self-government should be granted, viz., the separation of judicial from executive functions. The reforms will be divested of much of their value unless this separation is given effect to, and the executive and judicial functions are placed in charge of responsible persons thoroughly independent in the discharge of their duties and free from that incubus of the present system which combines in the district executive officers magisterial powers, besides placing the police officers under them. I shall not detain the Council with a statement of all the various reasons which had been advanced times out of number in support of the plea of separation of judicial and executive functions. Suffice it to say the want of confidence in the administration has been the cause of anarchism. If the Government had yielded to public opinion and moved in this matter early, there would have been no occasion to pass emergency Ordinances. They would not have faced anarchism, rebellion and rioting in various places. The lack of confidence in the subordinate officials possessing both the judicial and executive functions is the sole cause of these troubles.

"An independent judiciary is the greatest safeguard of the constitution and it is the ultimate refuge of a subject's rights and liberties, and I therefore urge upon the Government in the name of Law and Order, which is one of their essential duties to maintain, to take early steps to have this urgent reform effected. My task in this matter has been made much easier by reason of the fact that the hon. Member in the Treasury Bench in charge of Law and Order had, even before he began to grace the floor of this House with his presence and fell a prey to the blandishments of his new born love in the Council Chamber, been advocating this reform from various platforms and I

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am also aware, Sir, that one at least of the hon. the Ministers had not been lacking in his earnestness in appealing to the Government to have this much-needed reform effected.

"I would, therefore, suggest, Sir, and the suggestion has Parliamentary precedents behind it, that the hon. Law Member pass final and favourable orders on the report of the Committee appointed in pursuance of a resolution passed by this Council on 22nd September 1922. I wish he comes forward on the next official day with a list of resolutions on this subject and gets the opinion of the House thereon.

"With these words I commend the resolution standing in my name to the unanimous acceptance of this House."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"Sir, I beg to second the proposition. And, taking the advice of the hon. the Law Member I shall not be very long in my speech. It has always been the peculiarity with the Treasury Bench . . ."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"May I ask the hon. Member who moved the resolution whether he would insist on the date mentioned in the resolution, viz., 1st April 1925, remaining as it is; for, in that case I shall have to take a different attitude. But if he is willing to amend those words the matter is different."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU:—"I have no objection to making an alteration, say, by fixing the date as not later than six months or three months."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"If the hon. the Law Member will himself bring such an amendment we shall have no objection to it. As I was saying, ever since the reforms came in, the Treasury Bench has the peculiarity, whenever a question is asked, no matter how urgent, of saying that the matter is under consideration. We have had a number of occasions when the Treasury Benches resorted to this useful phrase. . ."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"It is not a very useful phrase. The fact is, in deference to the wishes of this Council, I telegraphed about a week ago to the Government of India, and this telegram I have in my hands regarding the separation of the judicial and executive functions is the reply that I have received. It states:

'the question still under consideration. Home',

the last word meaning the Home Member who is in charge of it. The telegram was despatched on the 2nd and it reached us on the 3rd February."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"I was coming to the fortunate position of the hon. the Law Member after dealing with the position of the Treasury Bench as a whole. They have always been closing our mouth, or at any rate attempting to close it by saying that the matter is under the consideration of the Government. Well, Sir, if the Limitation Act is to be of any use it is by way of amending it in one useful direction, viz., by enacting that no matter shall be under the consideration of the Local Government for more than such and such a period. That will be of some use to us. Otherwise matters will always be under consideration from year to year, from decade to decade and probably from century to century. I have to congratulate the hon. the Law Member that he is able to put off everything by saying that the matter is under his consideration, his sympathetic

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consideration ; and he has been always bringing to his rescue the statement that the matter is under the urgent consideration, sympathetic consideration, careful consideration of”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I think it would facilitate matters if the hon. Member would say whether he accepts the resolution in the amended form.”

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ As I have said already we shall cheerfully accept an amendment if the hon. Member will himself bring it.”

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I am not in a position to accept any resolution ; because, I do not know what the conclusions of the Government of India will be. When they are still considering it I cannot very well say that I accept any particular resolution. I cannot really do that. All that I can say is, this is a reserved subject and the Right Hon. the Secretary of State and the Government of India are entitled to impose mandates upon us and their directions are binding upon us. All that I can say therefore is what I have said already about it.”

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Knowing that it would be so, I have said already that it is no use to us if the Government is going to say that the matter is under their mere consideration or even sympathetic consideration. It is absolutely useless to us. Because, when this matter came before us we had gone on with it and the matter is known to us and so far as the Council is concerned the resolution was passed in the Legislative Council, a committee was appointed and everything was done. But the Government, as in everything else, are moving slowly ; perhaps the Government wheel moves always slowly.

1-15 p.m. “ In this matter, they moved much more slowly, and after long hesitation, the Committee was appointed. It consisted of several responsible officers and non-officials, and after a long time, again, in the Committee rooms, the report was drafted. It is after all a compromise report. Some of us wrote very elaborate and strong minutes of dissent. But we would be satisfied if reasonable beginnings were made. The report was placed before this House, and the House by a practically unanimous resolution, wanted that immediate steps should be taken on that report. We are now in a position—I do not know whether it is a fortunate position—of being told by the hon. the Law Member, not that this Government was going to consider the question—I speak subject to correction—but that the Secretary of State was going to consider the matter. This is a matter on which the Government has got some responsibility to the House apart from the fact that it belongs to reserved half. Of course, some steps must be taken by this House to force the Government to proceed with the matter instead of waiting for the opinion of the Government of India to be expressed. Unless we force this Government to do something tangible, there is no use. When I use the word ‘ force ’, I mean moral force ; the only force we can use on the reserved half, is by passing this resolution unanimously. The Treasury bench may not vote with us if we pass any resolution saying that this matter shall be brought up at once. There is no question of compromise here. If Government will not do that—I do not know if some of us will go so far—we will not sanction the grant under this head. But whatever it may be, whether we make speeches or not—we have made enough of speeches—we must clearly make the Government know our feeling in the matter and insist

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on this matter being brought as early as possible, the next earliest moment is when the new official year begins, because we know if the budget is passed and the Council passes the various grants, there will be no chance of this matter coming up for another year at least. They may take some more years or decades. Whether our friends non-co-operate or not at the time of the budget I strongly feel that this subject must be taken at the earliest opportunity, or else we will not sanction the particular grant. Of course, His Excellency, on the advice of the reserved half, might certify. But I do not think it will be necessary if we unanimously pass this resolution saying that we insist upon effect being given to this in 1st April 1925.

"After all, it is not a very difficult thing. The hon. the Law Member said some years ago—I do not mean the particular Law Member—I mean the officer who was in charge of the Law Department—that they were going to make a beginning, and they thought that a beginning was made by appointing two first-class magistrates. We were not satisfied with that. We do not know the persons who are responsible for the note prefacing the Committee's report. Whoever it may be, the Government in that note were prepared to go some steps in advance of the present stage. Now the Secretary of State and the Government of India have come to their rescue. They are not going to take any steps now. The reform is most urgent. These words of the Government of India that they are considering the matter will not take us one step further. Therefore I appeal to the House as a whole to pass this resolution unanimously and to show to the Government that if our resolutions were not treated with that consideration which we expect from Government we know how to retort, at least to some extent."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Mr. President, I am afraid I have been very unsuccessful in my argument, judging from the reception that it has met at the hands of my hon. Friend, the Member from Coimbatore. A general discussion of the question was raised during the last budget meeting and the vote taken on the budget at that time was taken to indicate that the House had accepted the majority report of the Committee, including my friend from Coimbatore. Now, subsequent to that, the Government of India has begun to consider the topic as an all-India question. They have been considering it, and in order if possible to make a definite statement, as to any conclusion that the Government of India might have arrived at, either by approval or ratification of the report, either on the majority report or on the minority report, this Government telegraphed to the Government of India as to whether they have come to a decision. I, Sir, at an earlier stage of the report, read to the House the reply from the Government of India in which they say they are considering the subject. Now my hon. Friend from Coimbatore has stated that if no decision is arrived at and the scheme is not carried, he would advise his colleagues to non-co-operate throughout the budget season."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"I said only one grant, i.e., Criminal Justice."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"That seems to be a drastic remedy and a somewhat cruel remedy so far as this Government is concerned. My hon. Friend knows this question is an all-India question and they have taken it and treated it as such. I take it that pressure will be exercised upon the Government of India and is being exercised in other quarters also. But

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* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ As I have said already we shall cheerfully accept an amendment if the hon. Member will himself bring it.”

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I am not in a position to accept any resolution ; because, I do not know what the conclusions of the Government of India will be. When they are still considering it I cannot very well say that I accept any particular resolution. I cannot really do that. All that I can say is, this is a reserved subject and the Right Hon. the Secretary of State and the Government of India are entitled to impose mandates upon us and their directions are binding upon us. All that I can say therefore is what I have said already about it.”

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Knowing that it would be so, I have said already that it is no use to us if the Government is going to say that the matter is under their mere consideration or even sympathetic consideration. It is absolutely useless to us. Because, when this matter came before us we had gone on with it and the matter is known to us and so far as the Council is concerned the resolution was passed in the Legislative Council, a committee was appointed and everything was done. But the Government, as in everything else, are moving slowly ; perhaps the Government wheel moves always slowly.

1-15 p.m. “ In this matter, they moved much more slowly, and after long hesitation, the Committee was appointed. It consisted of several responsible officers and non-officials, and after a long time, again, in the Committee rooms, the report was drafted. It is after all a compromise report. Some of us wrote very elaborate and strong minutes of dissent. But we would be satisfied if reasonable beginnings were made. The report was placed before this House, and the House by a practically unanimous resolution, wanted that immediate steps should be taken on that report. We are now in a position—I do not know whether it is a fortunate position—of being told by the hon. the Law Member, not that this Government was going to consider the question—I speak subject to correction—but that the Secretary of State was going to consider the matter. This is a matter on which the Government has got some responsibility to the House apart from the fact that it belongs to reserved half. Of course, some steps must be taken by this House to force the Government to proceed with the matter instead of waiting for the opinion of the Government of India to be expressed. Unless we force this Government to do something tangible, there is no use. When I use the word ‘ force ’, I mean moral force ; the only force we can use on the reserved half, is by passing this resolution unanimously. The Treasury bench may not vote with us if we pass any resolution saying that this matter shall be brought up at once. There is no question of compromise here. If Government will not do that—I do not know if some of us will go so far—we will not sanction the grant under this head. But whatever it may be, whether we make speeches or not—we have made enough of speeches—we must clearly make the Government know our feeling in the matter and insist

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the idea of the Mover seems to be to indicate the strong current of feeling that animates us, to precipitate the action of the Government of India and thereby also to precipitate a favourable consideration of the subject. I think in that spirit, the hon. Mover has thought fit to bring this resolution, not to embarrass the Government of India but merely with a view to lay before that Government our feelings in the matter and the necessity for the matter being expedited and given effect to in the immediate future."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I do not propose to occupy the Council very long on this question. I want to make some suggestions to the hon. the Law Member in connexion with this question. I have very little to say on the merits of the question, the separation of the judicial and executive functions.

"But I want to suggest that seeing that this is a very important question on which there is very strong feeling among all sections of the House and the public generally, any decision of the Government of India or of this Government should not be precipitated without giving an adequate opportunity for the House to express its own opinion thereon. I want to suggest this procedure which I see is very often adopted in the Assembly, but which I see is not adopted in this House. The Government of India moves resolutions in the Assembly expressing its views as regards what it is going to do on very vital questions and inviting discussion thereon in the Assembly so as to have the opinion of non-official members. Now, the hon. the Law Member says that this Government have come to some conclusions on this matter. What those conclusions are we are not aware of. The hon. the Law Member said that the majority of the House had given an indication of the fact that they are prepared to support the majority report. I am not quite sure of that. For I find that there are one or two points on which there is a very wide difference of opinion. We are in this position that we are absolutely in the dark as to whether the Local Government has accepted all the provisions of the majority report or only some of them, whether they have modified any of these proposals or whether they are in a position to make new proposals. Over and above that, we have the further difficulty that the Government of India might revise the proposals of the Local Government in their turn and modify them or alter them or cancel them. So that the final thing that will emerge from all these three authorities may have no relationship at all either with the report of my hon. Friend Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar or even with the majority report. And, if that hybrid scheme or, if I may be permitted to say so, that mongrel scheme is going to be put forward as the scheme for the separation of judicial and executive functions, we will be in a very much worse position than when these two functions are conjointly working. If the hon. the Law Member will undertake, on behalf of the Government, to put forward in this House a series of resolutions from the Government Bench suggesting what course of action they are prepared to take in connexion with this scheme for the separation of judicial and executive functions either now or after they have received orders from the Government of India, I would propose, and my hon. Friend the Mover would accept, a small amendment to postpone the working of the scheme for separation till September 1925, or till any other reasonable date. I do not want him to say that after the Government of India have passed orders the matter has reached such a state of finality that no revision either by this House or at the instance of this House is possible. That is the

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difficulty that I feel. What is the stage at which this House can effectively intervene? What is the stage at which it can advise the Government so that the Government may take advantage of it? These are things with which I am not very well acquainted seeing that I have had nothing to do with them. I have had nothing to do with the administration as such, of judicial and executive functions."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I hope he will soon be in the Treasury Bench."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" That is said at once."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I will be satisfied if my prophecy is fulfilled."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I am thankful to him. The hon. Member may be a better prophet than he is aware of. Now, these are our difficulties and I do request the hon. the Law Member to tell us that he will give us an opportunity for discussing these proposals."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" My only excuse for getting up at this moment is that what I am going to say might curtail discussion. This is a subject, Mr. President, which has engaged the earnest attention of publicists not only of this Presidency but throughout India for a long time. I take it that the orders of the Government of India on this subject will not form a cut and dry scheme which will apply to all provinces, but will only be the enunciation of certain principles and an attempt to elucidate public opinion. Whatever it be, if it is at all possible—and our hands are not definitely tied by the Government of India to a different course—I undertake to place any communiqué or anything that is received by the Government of India before this House and that this Government will not move in the matter before this House has had an opportunity to consider all the aspects of the resolution or communiqué of the Government of India."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" After the promise made by the hon. the Law Member I do not think I shall be advised in pressing my motion. I beg to withdraw it."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The House then adjourned for lunch (1-36 p.m.).

After Lunch 2-30 p.m.

II—cont.

MOTION FOR THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE TO DISCUSS THE RIGOROUS COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE IN THE TANJORE DISTRICT.

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move the adjournment of the business of the Council to consider an urgent matter of public importance, namely, the situation created in the Tanjore district by the rigorous collection of the enhanced land revenue even from lands that have not been cultivated, before any orders have been passed on the remission applications, and even in spite of the present famine-stricken condition of the district when a large extent of land is uncultivated and the yield of the cultivated lands is very much below the normal."

" It is natural that to begin with, the attention of hon. Members of this House should be directed to some of the aspects which are implied in the

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resolution, as this resolution is intended to cover more than one aspect. My idea in giving notice of this resolution was to consider what I think is necessary to consider in connection with this, three or four aspects which do arise out of the situation. They are these; to complain about the rigorous collection, about the enhancement of land revenue and the collection of that rate even for this year, the collection of those taxes before the remission applications have been disposed of and then about the enforcement and rigorous collection of those taxes, whatever may be the merits as regards the reduction or remission of those taxes, at this period. The situation created in the Tanjore district by the ungenerous way in which the Government were dealing with the mirasidars of that district has caused discontent among them. I do not propose to deal with the question which has already been discussed in this hon. House, viz., the enforcement of resettlement rates in the Tanjore district and the discontent that has been created by the introduction of those rates. I do not propose to go fully into those matters now but I shall briefly state some of the aspects of this question in so far as they concern the present motion. Owing to resettlement operations the recommendations of the settlement report were brought into force by which an enhancement of 25 per cent in the case of superior wet lands and 18½ per cent in the case of inferior lands were fixed. In the case of dry lands the enhancement went up to 40 per cent. Prior to the settlement of 1892 the Madras Government stated that the land tax prevalent in the Tanjore district was so high that no revision was called for. In spite of the protest of the Government of Madras an enhancement was made. The settlement report itself stated that irrigation facilities in the Tanjore district were very bad and required vast improvement and did not justify any enhancement of taxes and that the Government were bound to improve the irrigation and drainage facilities. That is what Government stated in 1892. Now more than 30 years have elapsed, resettlement operations have been conducted, but the irrigation and drainage facilities are in the same condition as they were prior to 1892. In the year 1919 or 1920 a committee called the Cauvery Committee was appointed and in their report it was pointed out that irrigation and drainage facilities in the Tanjore district needed vast improvement, but no action has yet been taken. The hon. the Law Member told us that the recommendations of this committee were being considered one by one and orders would be passed as soon as the consideration of those recommendations was over. I find no orders have yet been passed and nothing has been done to carry out the recommendations of that committee. The Government say that the enhancement of 25 per cent was reduced to 18½ per cent and that what the Government thought ought to be done had been done. Thanks to the hon. the Revenue Member and the new Governor, who as soon as they took charge said that a reduction ought to be made and a reduction was made from 25 per cent to 18½ per cent. The other day when there was a discussion about this question it was pointed out that there was a climb down or concession as the hon. the Revenue Member put it in favour of the mirasidars of Tanjore district. I do not consider it either as a climb down or concession and I think it is necessary for me to state that the action of the Government is an imperfect and tardy recognition of the just rights of the mirasidars of the Tanjore district, and I hope that whatever has been imperfectly done will be made perfect and that if more is due it will be given not as a matter of grace, but as a

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matter of right. The situation in Tanjore district is not exactly the same as it was when a similar resolution was discussed in the year 1923. Owing to unforeseen circumstances, and owing to heavy floods, the situation of the landholders has been made very irksome and I do not know what the plight of more than 80 per cent of the landholders is. It is really hard to describe their position. Every one in this Council knows that 90 per cent of the mirasidars of Tanjore district are poor landholders paying kist of not more than 10 to 15 rupees. It cannot be said that because there are some rich mirasidars paying a large amount of kist to the Government all the mirasidars of Tanjore district are in a prosperous condition. What we have to consider is the condition of the generality of landholders in the district and when I say that most of them pay a kist of Rs. 10 or Rs. 15 it can very well be realized that their condition is very precarious. They depend entirely upon what they get from their lands. Their position is very pitiable and they are entitled to a large amount of consideration from the hon. Members of this House and the Government. Owing to floods in July 1924 there was no normal supply of water in the rivers that irrigate the deltaic portion of the district till the month of December. To a question that was put to the hon. the Law Member he said he hoped—we also hoped—that the breaches would be closed very soon. Though we did not expect the full supply of water, yet we thought there would be some supply and that the landholders would be able to cultivate some of their crops at least. But the breaches were closed only in December, and there was no supply of water with the result that most of the lands are lying uncultivated. The very few lands that were cultivated are yielding only poor crops and it is well known to hon. Members of this House that generally there will be a harvest in the month of September or October called the Kuruvai and a second harvest in the month of January or February called the Samba. The first two instalments of kist are usually paid out of the proceeds of Kuruvai harvest. Suppose a man has 7 or 8 acres of land, usually he will cultivate 3 or 4 acres out of them with Kuruvai crop and from the proceeds he will be able to derive from these lands he will pay more than 75 per cent of his kist. Last year the people were not able to raise any Kuruvai crop at all. Now how are they to pay their kist? Are they to borrow or are they to sell their cattle and if at all they sell their cattle who is there to purchase them? This is not a case of individual distress where this man or that man is affected. It is a case of general distress in the district. Where are they to borrow and pay the kist for the months of January and February? What are they to sell? In these circumstances the suggestion which I make on behalf of the landholders whose condition is very pitiable is the suspension of the collection of taxes, either enhanced rate or the old rate, at least for two months so as to enable the mirasidars to realize their crops and sell them and then pay their kist in the month of March, May or June. This collection of taxes may be put off for two months so that the landholders may not be harassed and put to unnecessary trouble in the months of January and February.

“The next thing that I want to refer to is the reduction of $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent in the case of wet lands. What I would tell the Government is that in the case of inferior lands also a reduction of $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent should be made so that the position of the landholders might be considered to have been equitably dealt with. In this connexion it is necessary to state what happened since

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the last order announcing the reduction of 25 per cent to 18½ per cent was announced. As soon as the Government issued the Government Order I had the privilege of interviewing the hon. the Revenue Member to whom I showed a statement from which he was able to gather that the concession already granted was only 45 per cent in the case of wet lands and 13 or 14 per cent in the case of dry lands.

2-45 p.m. "The total concession now granted comes to about Rs. 1,80,000 to Rupees 1,90,000. If the rates are reduced from 18½ per cent to 12½ per cent there may be a loss to Government of Rs. 1,20,000 to Rupees 1,30,000. But this is a very small sum for a district which pays a total revenue of 65 lakhs. At present, only 45 per cent of the wet lands are benefited by the recent concession, and the remaining 55 per cent will be benefited by the reduction I now suggest. Again six-sevenths of the dry lands also will be benefited. What Government have already done have affected only one-third of the landholders of the district. The remaining two-thirds have been left without any benefit. But if the same concession is given to these people also the reductions in revenue will be far less than what has been already granted. And this should be done in order that the burden of taxation should be equitable to all the landholders. Government had already passed orders on this matter, but we did not stop there. We agitated and requested that the hon. Member for Revenue, Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah, might be pleased to receive a deputation in June or July. But soon afterwards Lady Habib-ul-lah was ill and the illness continued for a number of months. But the hon. Member promised to visit the district of Tanjore in October. But, then, His Excellency the Governor was away in Delhi and the first Member of the Council had to remain in Madras in the absence of the Governor. But again in November he said he would visit Tanjore, when very unfortunately he himself fell ill. All the while though he had the figures I worked out showing how the reduction affected the people, and though he had great sympathy with the district he was not able to come to Tanjore owing to causes over which he had no control. I had also tabled a resolution recommending the reduction of taxes in the case of lands assessed at 18½ per cent to 12½ per cent. But I withdrew the resolution, in view of the conversation I had had with Sir Habib-ul-lah and his promise to visit the district and come to certain conclusions. I have stated so in withdrawing the resolution. I now urge that a 6½ per cent reduction must be given on all lands assessed at 18½ per cent. This must be done immediately. I may be asked, 'what is the urgency?' If at all there was any urgency at any time it is all the more so now. The landlords are not able to pay even the old rates; they have suffered such severe losses that most of them are not able to cultivate their lands; they do not get the necessary seedlings nor are they able to secure paddy for seeds for the next year. Many of them will have to run into debts at exorbitant rates of interest in order to maintain themselves during the coming five or six months. So much so any slight reduction made by Government, if made now, will be very welcome and very opportune. Even a reduction of one, two or five rupees is not a negligible factor in the case of the landlords many of whom are very poor. It is justly due to them and it ought to be made so that they may not be unnecessarily harassed at this time of great distress.

"I have already stated that the collection of taxes ought to be postponed to the month of March and no tax should be collected in the month of January, or February. This reduction ought to be made in these cases also.

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[Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar] [6th February 1925]

"There is one other matter which is more urgent than this. Owing to the scanty supply of water most of the lands are left uncultivated. I have not got the exact number of acres, but I am told it will be about 7,000 to 8,000 acres which have been silted up. I gather this information from the hon. Members of the Tanjore district and a few others with whom I discussed this subject. But even on such lands tax is being levied at the enhanced rates without paying any consideration whatever to the question whether the lands are cultivated this year or not, and whether they would yield the same quantity or not. The hon. the Revenue Member was kind enough to tell me that he had received a telegram from the Collector that he had issued instructions to the village officials to the effect that they might exempt cases where they were sure that remission would be granted. But I have only to say that those instructions had not been faithfully carried out; for I am credibly informed by my hon. Colleagues that the old rates are being levied on all the lands on the same scale as last year. So much so, a person who paid Rs. 100 for the month of January last year, although he had suffered incalculable loss during the year is called upon to pay the same amount this year also for the month of January. It may be said, 'Let him pay Rs. 100 for the month of February also. We may adjust the accounts for the month of April, the last month. If remission is granted, let him pay very much less for the month of April.' But the landholder is not able to pay even that which he will have to pay finally after the remission applications are disposed of. When that is the case I cannot understand how he can be asked to pay what he may not have to pay finally. It is no solace to be told that what is collected from him will be remitted to him in the last kist. If the orders have been issued as the telegram from the Collector seems to suggest, I am only anxious that those instructions might be faithfully carried out. It must not be left to the discretion of the village karnam to say whether remission will be granted or not. I may suggest that it would be very satisfactory if the orders run on these lines: 'Where an application for remission has been made by a person who has suffered from floods with regard to some of his lands those parts may be left out of consideration and for the present taxes may be collected on the lands that are cultivated. Till the remission applications are disposed of the total payable by the landholder will be taken to be what is due from him for the other lands. Any excess if due from him may be demanded of him afterwards.' It may be argued that a landholder who has had a bumper harvest might put in a frivolous or false application. What then is the harm? I hope all the remission applications will be disposed of before the end of April. He may then be asked to pay the kist. He may even be asked to pay the interest if it is found that it was intentionally false and frivolous. Government will not lose anything by putting off the collection of a few rupees for a few months. Of course most of the applications are genuine and remissions will have to be granted. If an order on the lines suggested by me is issued, many landholders will be benefited.

"Lastly, every one in this House, and particularly hon. Members representing the Tanjore district, will be anxious to know the exact extent of the damage caused by the floods. Of course, we have seen the district and we know what it is. But our estimate cannot be so comprehensive and accurate as that which Government may make with its machinery. I dare say that Mr. Macmichael who was appointed to report on the extent of the damages

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has sent his report to the Government. When I applied to him for a copy of the report, he directed me to the Revenue Secretary who told me that the report had not been received and that a copy would not be given to me till it was considered by Government. Though this correspondence took place in the month of September last, I have not received a copy till now. I believe they have by this time passed orders on the report. However, they have not got the kindness to let the people know, to let the representatives of the districts affected by the floods know the exact information at their disposal. I hope that Government will, as soon as possible, furnish the necessary information to the people concerned. Otherwise we would be making the same mistakes and same wrong statements with the scanty information at our disposal. I respectfully submit that it is due to the tardiness of the Government in supplying the information at their disposal, and to which the people are legitimately entitled.

“ The hon. the Revenue Member was kind enough to answer a question put in this House as to whether orders had been issued for the collection of interest on the arrears of revenue even though they were paid before the end of the fasli. He asked whether there were instances of that kind. I know of cases where the interest had been levied even though the revenue had been paid before the end of the fasli. But Government were unable to give any definite information. Interest had been collected during the months of February, March and April 1924 even before the fasli itself. I am informed that in the month of October or November last an order had been issued by the Collector authorizing the village officials to collect interest if the revenue was not paid in the proper month and on the proper basis. In many cases interest had been collected in the months of November and December. Government should not penalize the people for their grievances felt rightly or wrongly. Government should issue the necessary orders and see that no such interest is collected and credit is given to the interest already collected.

“ Finally, my conclusions are these : a reduction of $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent must be granted to all lands which have not been benefited by the concession already granted ; collection of taxes should be put off by two months : no taxes should be collected for January and February ; it should be postponed till after all the remission applications are disposed of. In cases where there is extreme distress—and I am told that in at least one-third or one-fourth of the district there is distress due to want of crops—only old rates must be collected. The collection of enhanced rates in the Trichinopoly district was postponed since that district suffered from floods. But though the district of Tanjore suffered more from floods than the district of Trichinopoly, it has been said that nothing could be done since orders had already been passed. Though technically speaking orders had been issued, there is nothing to prevent the Government from postponing the collection of enhanced rates in Tanjore till the next year and thus extending the same concession to Tanjore which they have extended to Trichinopoly.

“ With these few words I trust that Government will consider the matter sympathetically and issue the necessary instructions to the officials in the district to so behave that they may not unnecessarily create discontent among the people who are loyal, but who are forced to withhold taxes not on account of any political or chimerical reasons, but purely on account of economic reasons. They are not able to pay and therefore they say, ‘ We won't pay ’.

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"After all, by adopting the suggestions I have made, the Government
3 p.m. may lose one or two lakhs. Their collections may be made two
months later, but I submit the sympathy they will command
and the sympathy and good will which they will create in the people towards
them will amply repay the few lakhs they may lose by carrying out these
suggestions. With these few words, I leave this resolution in the hands of
the House."

* Mr. VENKATARAMA AYYAR alias V. PANTULU AYYAR :—" Mr. President,
Sir, I crave the indulgence of this House to hear the woeful tale of our
unfortunate and much misrepresented district. There still seems to be a
suspicion lurking in the minds of many hon. Members, especially those on
the Government side, that our district has waxed quickest on plenty and
prosperity and is kicking against taxes out of its fullness. But, Sir, those
who have witnessed and experienced the agony of five long months—for, I
may remind you, Sir, that the breaches occurred early in July, just at the
beginning of the cultivation season and ended only in the middle of Decem-
ber, that is when the season for cultivation had ended—the agony of waiting
for water that was to come to save our crops from dying and waiting in
vain for water that was going into the Coleroon and then into the sea,
those who have witnessed and experienced it, those who are sympathetic and
have seen it with their own eyes will never labour under the delusion that our
district is in a prosperous condition, and is wantonly waging war. I submit,
Sir, to the Government that perhaps pulling by the nose is not the easiest nor
the safest way of reminding one of his duty, though a learned and responsi-
ble magistrate has held that pulling by the ear and gentle administration of
a kick on the back (Laughter) is perhaps the surest way of reminding one
of his duty. I would also respectfully urge on the consideration of different
political parties in this Council that the people of a district ought not to be
punished for holding, perhaps, political opinions different from their own.
Now, Sir, I may assure them that the unanimous opinion in the district is
that we are on the verge of starvation. I need not enlarge any further, Sir, but
I would simply read the reports of Government, published in the gazette, as to
the condition of our district, i.e. the seasonal reports, which are published
every week end.

"7th January—Water-supply insufficient. 10th January—Water-supply
insufficient. 27th December—Water-supply insufficient and so on. So that
in every case there is not a single report in which it is mentioned that
there has been sufficient supply of water in the Tanjore district. For the
week ending 18th October 1924, the seasonal report shows that standing
crops are generally fair except in Tanjore where paddy is adversely affected
for want of sufficient rains and adequate supply in rivers and irrigation
water is generally insufficient in several places, in parts of the South,
especially in Tanjore, where there is no water in the rivers.

"*Cultivation statement.*—Water-supply inadequate in parts of Tanjore
owing to silting up and breaches. Paddy in Tanjore has been adversely
affected (this is for the week ending 25th October 1924) by want of water but
is improving with the recent rains and the receipt of water in the Cauvery
and Vennar—more rains needed. For the week ending 1st November—Water-
supply insufficient for irrigation; wet crops restricted under the Cauvery
river system; supply in rivers is inadequate; irrigation water generally

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sufficient except in parts of Tanjore; prospects improving. For the next week in November—In Tanjore there was little or no water in rivers owing to the silting up at the Grand Anicut and owing to the breaches caused by the July floods. For the week ending 22nd November—Paddy affected in parts of Tanjore for want of water in rivers; prospects fair. Paddy in parts of Tanjore already adversely affected for want of water; prospects fair (laughter). For the week ending 13th December—Paddy adversely affected; prospects fair (laughter); sowings of paddy restricted in Cauvery delta; water-supply insufficient.

“ From the report of the Director of Agriculture it will be seen that there has been much reduction in the area under single-crop paddy in Tanjore due to scarcity of water in river channels as the result of breaches and the sand cast on the fields by floods; and for want of sufficient rainfall in Tanjore the yield of kuruvai was reduced. In Tanjore the yield of samba paddy will be much reduced owing to late planting, scarcity of irrigation water and insufficient rainfall; the crop may not mature properly unless adequate water in the channels and good rainfall are recorded in future.

“ This is the report of such a high authority as the Director of Agriculture. I may explain what the fair prospects mentioned above are. If there is a drop of rain or little water, of course the ears will come up, and then there will be ‘fair prospects’ for collection of revenue. That is the only ‘fair prospects’ mentioned there (laughter). Under these conditions I need not dilate upon the present state of things in the district. But I may mention that according to the usual remission rules, the remission account is prepared by the village accountant. He is very careful and shrewd enough to prepare a ‘correct account’ without his position being in the least affected thereby. And even when these accounts are sent to them, the collection of revenue even from lands which have been completely silted up is not suspended until the inspecting officer has sent in his sanction. And I may represent to the House why we are placed in such a peculiar and extraordinary condition this year. In the usual years, perhaps, here and there, a few villages may have been affected, but this visitation and devastation have been so universal and so complete in our district that for the next year’s cultivation, many areas, perhaps 50 or 60 per cent of the villages, will find it very hard to get the seeds and the necessary amount of money for cultivation expenses. Under these circumstances, I heartily endorse Mr. Muttayya Mudaliyar’s request that the collection be suspended for two months at least and that a careful investigation of the district be made to find out what lands are really entitled to remission; because, perhaps there might be a fear on the part of the Government as just now expressed, that if there are arrears they will find it very difficult afterwards to collect them. Sir, I may express a similar fear that if the excess is collected, it will be very hard for the Government to refund it. Under these circumstances the best thing to do is for the local officers to make a thorough investigation of the condition of the district and report thereon. Of course, in such villages as are not affected by the floods, the collections may take place even in this fasli. I may assure this House that the best villages are affected and are in a very bad condition. So I request that the rates may be collected in the old way according to the presettled rates as in

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Trichinopoly, and suspension be made in those villages from which there are applications for remission and which the officers have not finally inspected and passed orders. With these few words, I resume my seat."

*The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Mr. President, Sir, the hon. the Mover of this resolution has traversed a great variety of topics in moving the adjournment of the House. I do not propose to follow him on all the subjects which he has discussed, but will confine myself to dealing with the charge or allegation brought in the motion for adjournment, which is that there has been a rigorous collection of enhanced revenue even over lands that have not been cultivated and before any orders have been passed on remission applications. I promised the other day to publish a recent report of the Collector on the general state of the crops in the district. It would perhaps make my remarks as to the measures taken for collection clearer if I were to indicate the main facts that appear in that report. The main facts which appear from the Collector's report as to the state of the crops and the season at present are that in regard to irrigation under the Coleroon and South Rajan voikkal there is practically very little loss, and that there were in many cases exceptionally good samba crops; that under the Cauvery and Vennar rivers lands were not so fortunate but that with the opening of the old Vennar head there was enough water coming through to enable a normal kuruvai crop to be raised except at the tail ends. The difficulty, the pinch, however, the Collector reports, was felt about 12th September, but, fortunately, on more than two or three occasions rains came at a timely period and generally the present situation is that over the bulk of the delta there is the samba crop but that the outturn will be below the normal. I have no wish in any way to minimize or belittle the losses which have been sustained in this district on account of these floods, but I would ask this House to have some sense of proportion in considering them. It is not a state of anything like famine, and the outturn is estimated at about 7 to 8 annas; but there are localities at the tail ends of channels where there has been no water received and where the loss of crop would be total. The Collector anticipates a remission amounting to probably as much as five lakhs of rupees in the district.

" And now, as regards the rigour which has been alleged to have been applied by the Collector in making collections, I find that on the 24th January, the Collector held a conference with five divisional officers and seven tahsildars and personally instructed them to see that the remission rules were applied with all the leniency consistent with reasonable Government claims. He also issued a circular on the 26th in conformity with his previous oral instructions directing that no processes were to be taken out in bona fide cases covered by remission applications. He cancelled the previous district order which fixed one anna crop as the maximum leviable for remission and gave divisional officers discretion to grant remissions up to two annas. He has also moved the Board of Revenue asking that the concession which Government ordered in regard to partial waste should also be extended to savi. In conclusion, he states that every attempt has been made to treat bona fide sufferers leniently and many thousands of applications have been received. I do not think, therefore, Sir, that this House need be under any apprehension that there has been any undue severity or rigour in making collections or that there has been justifiable ground to adjourn the business of the House to consider this matter."

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*Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—“ Mr. President, Sir, in the case as presented by the hon. the Revenue Member, if I understand him correctly, he admits that at the tail end of the channel there is a general total failure of crops and it is said under the one river channel of Coleroon there were good crops whereas in the Cauvery and Vennar head channels there is partial failure giving 7 annas or 8 annas crops. Even from the statement that in some cases the failure is not very unsatisfactory it can be inferred that there are good many places where there was a very unsatisfactory out-turn. He stated that the Collector had a conference on the 24th January with some divisional officers and tahsildars and gave them instructions and that those oral instructions were confirmed on a subsequent date by written instructions. Even according to the existing practice necessary relief has to be given to the people of the district under the circumstances. According to the general practice where there is a general failure in any particular area collection of revenue is suspended until the remission applications are disposed of. But here I understand that instructions were given that in the case of the bona fide applicants for remission there should be suspension and in all other cases there should be collection. I want to know the reason why Government propose or the Collector proposes to deviate from the general practice of suspending collections in cases of distress and proceed after the disposal of the applications. As far as my knowledge goes, in all cases where there is a general failure in any particular area the orders will be to suspend the collection of revenues and after the disposal of the applications by them, *bona fide* or *mala fide*, the collection is begun. I do not think the practice is that in the case of any area instructions will be given by the tahsildars and the Collector to make a sorting of bona fide applications and mala fide applications. The general rule is to suspend the collection of revenue, dispose of the applications in all cases and then the collection will be proceeded with. In this district under the circumstances so vividly described and admitted by Government why should they deviate from the general practice and allow the revenue officers to make a distinction among the applications as bona fide and mala fide. Sir, I do not think any officer sitting in his office can say whether an application is bona fide or otherwise. He has to go to the field, inspect the crop, and then come to a conclusion whether a particular case deserved remission or not. I wonder how it is possible for any officer to say by merely looking into the applications whether they are real cases of grievance or not. What would generally be expected is that there should be a general suspension of collection of revenues in cases at least admitted by the Revenue Member, namely, the tail end area. Even in the second class of cases described by him where the average yield is 7 annas to 8 annas there could have been a general suspension and the revenue officers could have been instructed to proceed with azmoish of the fields, determine the cases very urgently and then proceed with the collection. Instead of that they are taking their own time and demanding the mirasidars to pay the kist to begin with and, as has already been stated by Mr. Pantulu Ayyar, ask them to expect a return if their cases are fit for remission. In the extraordinary circumstances of the district now described I think the procedure adopted is quite different from that which is generally adopted in other districts in other years. Is the Government adopting this extraordinary procedure towards Tanjore because it was recalcitrant last year? Why should they apply different principles for

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Tanjore? There is also another complaint that they are making some distinction between Trichinopoly and Tanjore. Even in the matter of enhanced settlement on account of the distressed conditions Government have suspended the introduction of higher rates in Trichinopoly. Having regard to the abnormal conditions in the district of Tanjore why should they not show similar concessions at least temporarily in this district? I hope Government will examine the whole thing and take a very favourable and lenient attitude in this year of distress towards Tanjore."

*Mr. C. MARUTHAVANAM PILLAI :—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the motion just now so ably put before this House by my hon. Friend. In doing so I speak with that confidence and authority of one who is a mirasidar of the district besides being their representative on this legislature.

"Since the time the resettlement operations began, the district of Tanjore has been found to be the pet of ill-luck and misfortune. Not only the Government but also this Council had dealt very unjustly with the Tanjore district. It is very difficult for any one to think that anything but the age-long prejudices and inter-district jealousies were the real causes for the almost tyrannical treatment that has been meted out to Tanjore for the last two years or so.

"Leaving aside all these unhappy considerations I shall now revert to the peculiar circumstances that have necessitated this motion. It is hardly necessary for me to tell you that July and August 1924 witnessed huge and disastrous floods which brought havoc upon the district. Lands were silted up, the houses of the poor were demolished and cultivation was rendered standstill. The untold sufferings are known to one and all, but what took place immediately after the floods are perhaps just the forces that completed the havoc which the floods began. The old river courses being silted up, the waters of the Cauvery and its distributaries flowed through the breaches and, in spite of lakhs of rupees having been spent, nothing tangible was done so as to alleviate our distress. A severe drought followed and such of the fields as escaped destruction by the floods found themselves again the victims of this severe drought with the result that the harvests have failed, and Tanjore to-day is in the very throes of a famine. That many of the ryots have not been able to grow enough paddy for their very consumption is a factor which could not be lost sight of. Under these circumstances I ask how are the Government justified in levying the enhanced rates of settlement. That concession was shown to Trichinopoly which has been denied to Tanjore and that the reasons given for this partiality of treatment are neither logical nor in any way acceptable is self-evident.

"I should not fail to mention that the policy of the Government towards Tanjore has been one of utter lack of statesmanship and sympathy. It is this short-sighted policy which drove the mirasidar of Tanjore to that defiant attitude of standing at bay against the Government last year. I should not fail to mention also that signs of a recrudescence of the same situation as that of last year are getting to show themselves and that no amount of coercion or ill-treatment will be able to improve the situation. Let Tanjore be treated as Trichinopoly has been treated and let no effect be given to the collection of enhanced resettlement rates till such time as the Land Revenue Bill is introduced and put into operation so that the principle of land revenue

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legislation is finally and impartially settled upon for the whole province. I assure you then that Tanjore will not have reason to demur being the recipient of an equality of treatment. With these words I commend my friend's motion for the acceptance of the House and also of the Government."

*Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I desire to
3-30 p.m. associate myself generally with the sentiments that have been given expression to by the mover of this adjournment motion. But I must at the very outset deprecate the tenor of the speech just delivered with reference to the tyrannical attitude which this House has exercised whenever any question relating to Tanjore came up. It is not so as a fact. But I do not want to go into those details at present, nor do I wish to stir up old memories on that question. To-day I think we are in a more agreeable frame of mind to discuss this question, not because anything new has happened to this question, but because I for one see signs of a better attitude being taken up by the mirasidars of Tanjore."

Mr. PANTULU AYYAR :—" My view is that elections are drawing nearer and nearer."

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I may here announce that my friend over there has dissociated himself from those movements which are intended to check constitutional agitation, those movements which are intended really to embarrass the Government itself. We see that there are signs on the part of many mirasidars of Tanjore of dissociating themselves from the movement which has been called the no-tax campaign and of rallying more and more on the side of constitutional agitation in giving vent to their grievances through their representatives in this Council, and on trying to convert other representatives coming from the other districts to give up mutual jealousies of districts and to take up an attitude which is just and fair to every district. It is that sign, that evidence of a change of attitude, that makes me hope for things better, that has emboldened me to come forward with a speech in which I am prepared to support the representatives of the Tanjore district in regard to their grievances."

" Having explained my attitude, I may say a few words on the merits of the question itself. We are aware that the settlement has been revised in the district of Tanjore. We were averse to the position that Tanjore should not have a resettlement at all, and those of us who came from several other districts and had this resettlement in our districts felt that it was not fair to the general tax-payer, not fair to those districts which had their resettlement revised, that some particular districts should be free from resettlement altogether. But we were always prepared to support the position that the principles on which resettlement has been based should be revised, that wherever it was proved that an excessive rate has been fixed that excessive rate should be reduced, and that under the special circumstances which the representatives of the people and of the landlords have reason to protest against, the settlement proposals of the Settlement Officer should and ought to be revised. That position I still am prepared to maintain, and it is therefore, Sir, that some of us were prepared to advocate in this Council as well as outside that the high settlement rates that have been fixed in the district of Tanjore should be revised. But we were not prepared, as I am not prepared, to say that there should be no resettlement at all for the district of Tanjore,

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I therefore welcomed to a certain extent the offer that was made by the hon. the Home Member then that he would himself personally investigate the question and do what he could to see whether the settlement proposals were set right, and the hon. the Home Member then, I believe, suggested, and the Government accepted the suggestion, that so far as those resettlement proposals which fixed the rate of assessment 25 per cent above the original rates were concerned, they ought to be reduced by $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. Having done that, the Government has given up its case entirely. Having accepted the position that the rate of 25 per cent on certain lands ought to be reduced to a lower rate, the Government refused to accept the contention that the proposals of the Settlement Officer were not based on proper or correct data. If the Revenue Member was for the moment able to accede to the contention that with reference to particular classes of lands 25 per cent was too high, it follows automatically, so long as the Settlement Officer has worked on the same principles right through the district and on all classes of lands, there ought to be a proportionate reduction with regard to other lands as well ('Hear, hear') and that with reference to lands which had $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent increase there ought to be a proportionate reduction also. Therefore, I say the Government has given up its case completely and cannot have an intermediate position to take up, namely, that the resettlement with reference to certain classes of lands should be revised and with reference to certain other classes of lands the resettlement rates should stand where they were. Therefore, it is on the Government's own case I am in a position to support the contention of the mirasidars of the Tanjore district that there ought to be reduction with reference to the resettlement of other lands as well. On their own conduct, on their own attitude in the past, I do venture to think that the mirasidars—I do not want a brief from the mirasidars at all—but from the case of the Government I do venture to think that the mirasidars have a just case for reduction with reference to the other lands so far as the resettlement proposals are concerned.

"Now, Sir, we are overweighed by other considerations. It was at the beginning of last year when the resettlement proposals were discussed for the first time in this Council that we became aware of the extraordinary agitation that was set on foot at Tanjore. I have already said that I personally discountenanced that part of the agitation which adopted obstructive tactics. But we were aware that there was a certain amount of genuine complaint with reference to the resettlement rates that have been raised by the Settlement Officer and which were proposed to be given effect to by the Government. Now, over and above that came the floods. Sir, I may be permitted to give expression to the opinion that in the case of certain districts the floods have proved a blessing in disguise, that the floods have given room to a great deal of repairs being done; bridges which were shaky have been or are going to be put in a better condition; trunk roads which were very dilapidated are going to be put in a first rate condition; and as a member of the Finance Committee I am aware that some of the districts will be better off and would receive more generous treatment if only occasionally Providence will divert the floods to those districts (laughter). But that apart, I believe, so far as Tanjore is concerned, even under the flood relief scheme, such relief has not been given to this district. That apart, we have this overweighing consideration affecting the question that in addition to the resettlement trouble we had the floods

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*Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—“ Mr. President, Sir, in the case as presented by the hon. the Revenue Member, if I understand him correctly, he admits that at the tail end of the channel there is a general total failure of crops and it is said under the one river channel of Coleroon there were good crops whereas in the Cauvery and Vennar head channels there is partial failure giving 7 annas or 8 annas crops. Even from the statement that in some cases the failure is not very unsatisfactory it can be inferred that there are good many places where there was a very unsatisfactory out-turn. He stated that the Collector had a conference on the 24th January with some divisional officers and tahsildars and gave them instructions and that those oral instructions were confirmed on a subsequent date by written instructions. Even according to the existing practice necessary relief has to be given to the people of the district under the circumstances. According to the general practice where there is a general failure in any particular area collection of revenue is suspended until the remission applications are disposed of. But here I understand that instructions were given that in the case of the bona fide applicants for remission there should be suspension and in all other cases there should be collection. I want to know the reason why Government propose or the Collector proposes to deviate from the general practice of suspending collections in cases of distress and proceed after the disposal of the applications. As far as my knowledge goes, in all cases where there is a general failure in any particular area the orders will be to suspend the collection of revenues and after the disposal of the applications by them, *bona fide* or *mala fide*, the collection is begun. I do not think the practice is that in the case of any area instructions will be given by the tahsildars and the Collector to make a sorting of bona fide applications and mala fide applications. The general rule is to suspend the collection of revenue, dispose of the applications in all cases and then the collection will be proceeded with. In this district under the circumstances so vividly described and admitted by Government why should they deviate from the general practice and allow the revenue officers to make a distinction among the applications as bona fide and mala fide. Sir, I do not think any officer sitting in his office can say whether an application is bona fide or otherwise. He has to go to the field, inspect the crop, and then come to a conclusion whether a particular case deserved remission or not. I wonder how it is possible for any officer to say by merely looking into the applications whether they are real cases of grievance or not. What would generally be expected is that there should be a general suspension of collection of revenues in cases at least admitted by the Revenue Member, namely, the tail end area. Even in the second class of cases described by him where the average yield is 7 annas to 8 annas there could have been a general suspension and the revenue officers could have been instructed to proceed with azmoish of the fields, determine the cases very urgently and then proceed with the collection. Instead of that they are taking their own time and demanding the mirasidars to pay the kist to begin with and, as has already been stated by Mr. Pantulu Ayyar, ask them to expect a return if their cases are fit for remission. In the extraordinary circumstances of the district now described I think the procedure adopted is quite different from that which is generally adopted in other districts in other years. Is the Government adopting this extraordinary procedure towards Tanjore because it was recalcitrant last year? Why should they apply different principles for

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as well as the Opposition and I hope also the Government and in the appeal it has evoked from the last speaker which goes out not only to the members of this House, but, Sir, as he hopes, to a large outside public very anxious to take political homilies from this platform. I must congratulate myself that I have been able to hear that political homily from my hon. Friend Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. I should have been very much disappointed if any of the Government Members have had to preface their sympathetic remarks and joined hands with those who are anxious to give relief to Tanjore—if any of those hon. Members from the Treasury Benches should have prefaced their remarks in the manner in which my hon. Friend has done—and I should have been very much disconcerted and disheartened. For I never expected that sympathy for a suffering humanity would merely rest on the political colour or on the light or vision that they have according to their own convictions or conscience. ('Hear, hear.') Rather would I appreciate the sympathy that is extended to the Tanjoreans from my hon. Friend on the other side if it came fully and whole-heartedly and not because a certain hon. Member on this side has to-day been converted to a certain political vision and taken a certain new hue or colour according to the light of the political vision on the other side. Still we should be satisfied on behalf of Tanjore with any sympathy that may be evoked and I do not want that the case of Tanjore which so richly has been able to get sympathy this evening at the hands of hon. Members on the other side, the Ministerialists also, should suffer on account of my own remarks. They are entirely my personal remarks, and I wish, because a homily has been administered to the Members of this House and even to outsiders, I wish to give a sort of response in my own humble way that I should not appreciate such sympathy if my district at any time is ever affected by the floods (which God forbid), though my hon. Friend seemed to read philosophy in stones and in running streams in stating that the floods were a blessing for a district that it may be the better for it. If that catastrophe should ever happen I hope my hon. Friend will remember that I would not enlist his sympathy in this half-hearted manner and would not request him to join hands with me if he says that he would not do so unless I should take my stand on a different political platform, different from the one which my conscience would dictate to me.

"Sir, I listened carefully to the very sympathetic and considerate remarks that fell from the hon. Member for Revenue. But, Sir, he will
3-45 p.m. pardon me and you also, if in this connexion I refer to a certain remark that was made by a professor of mathematics who was at the time lying in the General Hospital here to the doctor who was attending on him, viz., Lt.-Col. Nibblock. One evening, the patient wanted the doctor to prescribe for him some sleeping dose and in the beginning of the night the medicine was given. But the patient did not get sleep. And the following morning while the doctor was being informed about it, the patient remarked:

Medicine, I had it,
Sleep, I had none;
It had all its effect
Except the desired one.

Similarly, the hon. Member will pardon me when I say that he made very sympathetic references to the Tanjore mirasidars and he only added that he

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would give his very best consideration. But what my friends here are asking is that the collection of the kists should be suspended for a number of months. Now the kist is being collected according to the old rates. What was the reply, Sir? The remission would be granted according to the fancies of the Collector and the Revenue Divisional Officers. That is again the old issue. We are not concerned with what should be done to-morrow but we are more concerned with what has to be done to-day. Yesterday we were not well off and instead of your taking the kist to-day we ask that it be taken to-morrow when the morrow is a better morrow. This is a very simple request and the Government must be able to grant this. The G.O. No. 1931 was issued on the 16th December 1924 and it states that in the matter of the concession the benefit should be denied to areas of less than one acre. Now, I submit that that proviso may kindly be taken again into consideration. It is the poor that need the help the most. As it is if the area affected is less than one acre, say three-fourths of an acre, that will not be benefited. As a matter of fact it is those ryots chiefly that stand mostly in need of the help. Therefore, I would respectfully submit to the Members of the Treasury Bench to revise as far as possible that proviso and extend the benefit to the small areas as well. I hope I have not inflicted a long speech and I join hands with my hon. Friend over there (Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar) in supporting the motion that has been made."

Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB :—" Mr. President, Sir, having heard the sympathetic speeches from the different portions of this House, I would not have intervened in this debate had it not been for the fact that Trichinopoly was mentioned by more than one hon. Member of the House as having been the recipient of special favours from the hands of Government."

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I never hinted that it was unfair nor did I say that it was treated with any special partiality."

Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB :—" Apart from all that, Sir, all that I wanted to lay before the House was the fact that Trichinopoly would not have received a better fate than Tanjore but for the fact that the floods have intervened between the orders of Government and the Settlement report of the officer. As I have remarked on a previous occasion, if the Settlement Officer had been asked to draft a report after the floods, the report as to Trichinopoly would have been quite different. I should think that, in the exercise of their discretion, Government were not weighed by any partiality for one district against another but they were weighed by very sound and solid reasons which did not permit of any other course being taken than the one they have taken of postponing the settlement, may I say, until normal conditions are restored. Having explained that point, Sir, may I also say that if at all the people of Trichinopoly had anything to say about the treatment meted out, one thing is very prominent in their minds at present. After the floods, the matter has been mentioned more than once in this House—the matter being that a special grant be made for closing the Kilikkudi breach so that Tanjore may receive the usual water-supply without any delay. At that time apart from the Kilikkudi breach there was another breach for the closing of which the mirasidars of Trichinopoly approached

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the Superintending Engineer. They were told that Trichinopoly must wait till the Tanjore people and the Tanjore mirasidars are supplied with water. After the Trichinopoly tracts had become desert land, that was attended to. That shows that Tanjore breach was attended to then because that was considered very urgent. The authorities were also guided by the fact that the interests of Tanjore were certainly far greater than the interests which existed in Trichinopoly. Having mentioned these facts, I do hope that these facts will disillusion this House of the implications of one or two statements that have been made in this House regarding any special favour shown to Trichinopoly. I am not here to discuss the question of justice denied to other districts and all that I point out is that justice was done to Trichinopoly because of special reasons that existed there. I loathe to have anything to do with any of these petty inter-district jealousies. Knowing fully the difficulties that the mirasidars of Tanjore are suffering under, I do strongly support the motion that has been brought forward now.

"Another special reason I want to urge is this. The usual method of dealing justice in these matters, namely, to wait for a report in the usual dilatory manner from the so-called camps of District Collectors, I beg to submit, will not be a proper method to be adopted in this particular matter. It is a recognized fact that the whole area has suffered and that fact is not denied even by the Government. The Government itself admit it that water has not been properly supplied. That being so, I beg to urge on the consideration of the Government that it should not be left to the tender mercies of the village officers to make a report from their homes and then the supervising officer to knock away some portion of it making the report lose half its original usefulness and then recommending something by way of remission. In this special case I commend to Government that they should appoint a special officer to make personal inspections of each area and see that real and solid justice is done to all the mirasidars that have suffered. To quote only one instance: I know one instance where the land, which was not tilled, was considered to have been actually tilled and harvested and on that basis it was assessed. There are ever so many instances of this nature where the mirasidars have actually suffered and that is why I recommend that special officers should be appointed to personally see that justice is done properly. With these few words I strongly support the motion that has been made before the House."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"Sir, in giving my support to this resolution, I should like to offer a few remarks only. As a matter of fact, Tanjore has been hit hard firstly by the enhanced assessment and secondly by the devastation of the floods. It has given me immense relief and satisfaction to listen to the encouraging speech of my hon. Friend, the Member from Chingleput. But I do think he would have done well if he had eschewed from his speech any reference to the attitude that Tanjore took last year and if he had also abstained from treating the House to a homily. Things of the past should be forgotten and let us forget the past and bury the hatchet. Each one has his own idea about these things and on the attitude of the Tanjore mirasidars there have been honest differences of opinion. So far as we are concerned, it behoves us all to forget the past and to begin a new slate to write with.

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“ Now, coming to the very merits of the resolution, I submit that, in view of the admitted facts and in view of certain admissions made by the hon. the Revenue Member that the tail-end of irrigation sources had suffered very badly and that part of the lands in the deltaic areas had suffered substantially by reason of their having produced or being capable of producing only seven or eight annas crop, one should very well understand and envisage the situation in its true perspective. With respect to certain owners of lands, the mirasidars have been hit hard. Their grievances can be better imagined than described. With regard to other classes of persons, they have also been hit hard substantially, because they have been deprived of the crops to the extent of 50 per cent and it is not at all likely that except perhaps a very small percentage of cases there could have been a bumper harvest in view of the universal distress that has overtaken the district ranging from zero to 50 per cent. I think it is better that the Government revised their policy and embark upon a policy not merely of conciliation but also of concession. As more than one speaker remarked, the Government stands to lose nothing by suspending the collection of kists for two or three months more. Instead of the money lying idle in the coffers of the Government for two or three months, I suppose the Government would be well advised to keep the coffers open for receiving remittances two or three months later, because in the meanwhile the money is not going to earn interest as Government is not a commercial body. That is a great relief which every mirasidar and other person afflicted by this flood will appreciate.

“ I should like to make only one observation with respect to remission rules. Hon. Members of this House may perhaps remember—my memory takes me back to the year 1885—when Tanjore passed through a crisis, which was perhaps not as bad as the crisis now. Forty years ago, there was a Collector by name Mr. Thomas, and he had a Deputy Collector under him—the late Mr. Tillainayagam Pillai. There was a big drought and lands were affected. And that gentleman who happened to be the Headquarters Deputy Collector was put upon special duty; and he granted on the strength of personal inspection which he carried, under very trying circumstances, remissions on a very large scale. With what result? He was thrown overboard by the Collector, thrown overboard by the Board of Revenue and eventually dismissed the service. That was in the year 1885. But later on when the real facts were brought to the notice of the Government, the then Government of Madras took a different view, reviewed the situation and restored him. I know the gentleman myself, because after retirement he spent a greater part of his life in Cuddalore and died full of years and honours only ten years ago. I have come in close contact with him and have ascertained at first hand the details of that case. That apart, I only adverted to that to show with what rigour these rules are being worked out. And I may also bring to the notice of the Government another fact, viz., that three or four months ago, a large number of remission applications were made by the villagers in parts of Vriddhachalam taluk and other taluks; mahazars after mahazars were sent, and later on I was told, on the recommendations of the village officers the lands and fields were azmaished by the revenue inspectors, deputy tahsildars and tahsildars who in a large number of cases recommended remission. What is the result? When the jamabandi officer came there at the time of jamabandi, he accepted the recommendation only in 10 per cent of

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the cases and others were rejected. When the matter went up for appeal, the Collector thought fit to inquire into only a few cases. In a large number of cases, it was not found possible to file appeals by reason of the extraordinary attitude taken by the jamabandi officers in insisting on a large number of copy stamps being supplied by the party concerned who applied for extract. To make myself clear, suppose a villager applies for remission on two or three survey fields. Instead of giving him an extract so far as it related to that gentleman, the officer concerned insisted upon this man getting copy of the entire file relating to the whole village so far as remissions went, with the result that many found it practically impossible to get copies, which in a large majority of cases came to three or four rupees. I myself went through some of the files and the orders in certain cases did not contain more than half a dozen lines. There was a lot of other applications, with which they had no connexion, relating to other fields and the officer was so cruel as to misunderstand the spirit of the departmental orders on the subject and to insist upon the party applying for a copy of the entire village record which contained a large number of cases. Personally speaking, my client was concerned only in one case. That is the spirit in which the orders were being made. There ought to be an element of sympathy. I think it is better that these officers who profess sympathy actually translated it into action and work the rules relating to remission in a truly liberal and generous spirit.

"With respect to one aspect of the matter, namely, that the hon. the Revenue Member understood that the Collector of Tanjore had asked his subordinates to suspend the collection of revenue in respect of lands whenever he thought that applications for remission were made bona fide, I think it is a very dangerous thing to start with for this reason. In the matter of remissions we have to deal with a certain number of officers—the village officer, the revenue inspector, the deputy tahsildar, if the village happens to be in his jurisdiction and the tahsildar and the divisional officer. It is quite possible there may be divergence of views among them. Whose view is to be taken? Therefore in order to avoid complications, I think it better to start with the presumption that every application for remission is bona fide, and eventually if the Government comes to the conclusion that the application for remission was a ruse to gain time, that man can be penalised. For it is perfectly open to the Government by means of an executive order or by ransacking some hidden rule to charge interest and collect the amount in a lump sum. There is no escaping it. The ryot can dodge the Government only for the time being, and it is impossible for him to throw dust in the eyes of the officers successfully. Therefore, all things considered, in view of the situation that has arisen, I submit that the three or four courses referred to graphically by the hon. the Mover are worthy of serious consideration by this House, and I have no doubt that the House with one voice will give its support."

* Mr. E. W. LEIGH :—"Mr. President, Sir, I have no doubt that we have had a very interesting afternoon. We have been discussing, I find, Tanjore re-settlement, further reduction of rates in Tanjore, collection of interest on revenue of last year and other subjects. But I find that very little attention has been given to the point on which we are called to express our opinion. We are asked to record our votes on the question as to whether or not there

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has been, or is not going to be, or is likely to be, or could be, excessive rigour in the collection of assessment of revenue in Tanjore on lands which are entitled to remission. Now, Gentlemen, I invite you to consider whether we have had put before us any evidence at all that there has been excessive rigour in collection. An instance has been cited of a case that happened 40 years ago in Tanjore district which is really some ancient tale. Reference was made by the hon. Member from South Arcot to a case which occurred in his district. I do not know what the date was of the order on which he was asked to get copies of the whole of No. 5 account."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Last September, Sir."

* Mr. E. W. LEGH :—" At any rate, it was not in Tanjore. As regards Tanjore itself, I really do not think we have before us any evidence that there has been any rigorous collection. I invite the House to consider the statement which has been made on the other side. The House is somewhat acquainted with the Collector of Tanjore; they have heard of his doings during floods, and they know he is not a man who is stony-hearted or devoid of sympathy. He is not a man who sits in his bungalow and does not go out to see what is happening around him. But he is a man who is capable of active work and who is given to going out on inspections and forming his own judgment on things happening in those places. Therefore, having regard to the instructions which have been issued by him, I am sure that the House will realize that those instructions will be carried out by his subordinates; and at this time, we certainly have not before us any fact which would justify us in recording our vote that there has been undue rigour in the collection of kist.

"I have just one or two points, which I would like to refer to in the course of this debate. The hon. Member from Chingleput drew an inference from an order which was passed in the matter of Tanjore settlement, which I think is not justified at all either by facts or by the orders passed. He said that because an order has been issued reducing the maximum assessment in Tanjore from 25 per cent to 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent, the Government have thereby indicated its view that the Settlement Officer's orders were not correct and that a similar reduction was due in the district. I would invite the hon. Member's attention first to the fact that the orders had already been passed on the Tanjore settlement report by the Settlement Officer and the Government had accepted his proposals before the question of the 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent maximum came up. Secondly, there was nothing in the order which was finally issued indicating that Government had any reason to reconsider the views or the proposals made by the Settlement Officer. It was entirely on the ground that the Government felt bound by a promise which was made in the House on the Settlement Bill to propose a maximum in future, a maximum limit of rise in the assessment in cases where resettlement is made entirely on the ground of rise in prices, and it was for this reason and this reason only that reductions were made in certain cases in the Tanjore district. If hon. Member will read those orders, he will find I am correct. There is nothing indicating any change of view or any idea that the remainder of the district needed any further reduction than has been given to it. I just drew attention to that as the hon. Member has referred to it. As this is going in to the press, if the statement is not contradicted, it will afterwards be referred to and said that the Government did not contradict it.

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4-15 p.m. "The hon. the Leader of the Opposition seems to be, I think, under a misapprehension as to the nature of the remission rules. There are several provisions in the remission rules. There are general rules, there are rules for occasions when great calamities happen and so on. They provide for different situations. There are different rules applying to different cases. But the general rule is perfectly clear. It is laid down therein that the tahsildar may suspend temporarily the collection of revenue subject to certain conditions. That is the general rule. It applies to all cases where the loss is not spread over a wide area, viz., in cases where the loss has to be considered from field to field. You cannot go to the villages in Tanjore and say that the whole of the villages there require remission. There are certain cases in each area which have to be considered upon their merits and for this purpose there is the general rule. I imagine that the hon. Member was probably referring to the case of what was called widespread calamities such as occur in areas like Bellary and Anantapur where the Collector used at times to issue a general order suspending the kist pending the orders of Government. The present case under consideration is not quite similar to the abovesaid cases."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"I distinctly stated that the Collector had power to issue orders to suspend collection in cases of distress. I may say that the hon. the Revenue Member did admit that in the case of general failure of crops the Collector could order suspension of collection and proceed with his inquiry into the failure of crops."

* Mr. E. W. LEGH :—"In answer to that I would say two things. As the hon. Member points out it is open to the Collector, supposing a whole village has suffered, to recommend suspension of that particular area under the rules. I would then point out . . ."

* Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—"My complaint is that the Collector did not do it in this case even though it is admitted on behalf of the Government that there is a general failure in a big area."

* Mr. E. W. LEGH :—"In answer to that I would say this. If there are such areas in Tanjore—I am not sufficiently acquainted with the district to say that there are areas which ought to be treated that way—I would point out to the Mover of this resolution that he would have got what he wanted more quickly if he had gone to the Collector and said: 'here are certain villages which are so badly situated that suspension of collection is immediately necessary' and got it suspended. He would have got orders on the matter very much quicker than by coming to this House and moving an adjournment of the business of the House which can only consider general questions."

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—"May I take it that in cases where applications ought to have been made, they should not be made a subject-matter of discussion in this House?"

* Mr. E. W. LEGH :—"I do not say that no discussion is permissible. But I may say that if the Collector had been moved in the first instance instead of moving an adjournment of the House the hon. Member could have saved himself time. However, we have had a very interesting discussion."

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I only hope that in giving our vote on the subject we should not lose sight of the particular question which we are asked to vote upon owing to the large number of subjects which we have discussed."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—"The question may be put."

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"I do not think we can put the question now. Mr. Krishna Rao wanted to speak as also some other hon. Members."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"Sir, I stood up more than once. Let me have a chance."

"Sir, I shall be very brief. I do not wish to stand in the way of the discussion being closed. I will summarise in a few words what I have to say. I quite agree with the Revenue Secretary that the only question we have to consider is the question of the rigorous collection of enhanced land revenue. We are not now considering the desirability or undesirability of the rates introduced in the re-settlement nor are we considering the desirability of suspending the collection of land revenue for the current fasli. Resolutions Nos. 11 and 18 have been balloted but there is not the slightest chance of their being considered at this meeting. If we confine ourselves to the specific question raised in this case, I am quite certain that the Government would in a statesmanlike and reasonable spirit accept this resolution instead of forcing the House to vote upon it. It will be for them even now to consider whether it is desirable that they should force a decision on this question without accepting the principle underlying the question. What does the motion state? It states :

'The situation created in the Tanjore district by the rigorous collection of enhanced land revenue even for lands which have not been cultivated and before any orders have been passed on the remission applications in the present famine-stricken condition of the district a large extent of land being uncultivated and the yield of the cultivated land being very much below the normal . . .'

"If it is a general suggestion about rigorous collection of land revenue I can understand the Government thinking that there is some sort of stigma implied in this resolution as to the general collection of land revenue. But it is confined to the collection of land revenue in cases of lands in a particular district, in cases of lands which have not been cultivated and before orders have been passed on remission applications concerning those lands. If it is a question of there being difficulty in the matter of the rigorous collection of land revenue, if we take the language of this motion, I do not find any necessity for any opposition so far as the Government are concerned. I am made to understand by the hon. the Mover that there are other facts which he would still bring to the notice of the Government. I am speaking on the motion which is now before the House. On the terms of the motion there is nothing to which any one can possibly take any exception. But then, Sir, in the course of the discussion analogy has been drawn to matters pertaining to several other districts. I wish that we consider each district on its merits and not draw parallels between districts such as Bellary or Anantapur. The circumstances in those districts would have to be considered when they come up for discussion or decision. Confining ourselves to the present question, whatever might be the views entertained as to the enhanced

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rates in those places, there is not the slightest justification for not putting off the collection of revenue in the cases specified. It will no doubt have the effect of suspending revenue”

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ May I say, Sir, that since so many subjects have been discussed, perhaps the hon. Member has forgotten that I did endeavour to state that the Collector had ordered that no steps were to be taken for the collection from lands for which remission applications have been received ? ”

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—“ If I heard the hon. the Revenue Member properly he stated that where he considered their applications to be bona fide the Collector ought to consider about the grant of remissions in a lenient manner. When it is clothed in such language there is every chance of there being a dispute about the grant of remission on the ground of the application being bona fide or otherwise. It is open to a large volume of doubt regarding each application. It is open to the revenue divisional officer to reject an application on the ground that it has not been bona fide. There is no danger at all if the terms of the motion are accepted and further inquiries are made in all cases where remission applications are presented and collection of revenue suspended in all those cases. It is not a case in which there will be any difficulty in collection later on. There are ample loopholes in the speech of the hon. the Revenue Member giving opportunities for revenue officers to say that such and such an application is not bona fide and therefore no remission can be made. The hon. the Revenue Member can have it modified and he can give instructions to the effect that there may be suspension of the collection of revenue in all cases where applications for remission are pending. I therefore think that this motion may be accepted.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ The hon. the Revenue Secretary suggested that the hon. Mover of the proposition might have gone to the Collector and obtained what he wanted without coming before this House. I doubt very much whether it is always possible to get justice done by the so-called officers on the spot. I may mention, for instance, that in three villages in one district the arrears of last year were, for some reason or another, not collected. The village officers thought that the revenue collection had been suspended and so they did not collect the arrears of that year. Jama-bandi of those villages was conducted and nobody noticed the fact that arrears for that fasli had not been collected. Demand, collection and balance statements were sent month after month and yet the omission was not noticed. But, all on a sudden, in the month of December or January they found out that the arrears of last year had not been collected and the fact was brought to the notice of the Collector and no orders were passed thereon. But the tahsildar went on putting pressure on the village officers and compelled the people to pay the four instalments of arrears in one month before the kist season began. That has been going on in spite of the personal representation to the officers on the spot. In the district of Anantapur, I think, the crops in Tadpatri have not fared well. I dare say the local officers should have recommended suspension of collection, but I am told on credible authority that the Collector did not see his way to comply with the recommendations

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made by his subordinate officers. So, Sir, the Revenue Secretary will pardon us if now and then we come and trouble the Government on the floor of this House for redress which we find it difficult to obtain elsewhere.

"I regret that any political consideration should have been introduced in this matter in deciding on the resolution before the House. I do not belong to that school of thought which believes in obstruction for any reason or no reason whatsoever. But this much it is my duty to say having observed the conduct of the Government in many matters vitally affecting the poor people that for most of this obstructive policy the Government is very often than not responsible. Therefore, I do believe that they would so revise their policy and promptly act in regard to matters that are brought to their notice as to give no room for discontent to gather in volume and manifest itself in undesirable forms. For, what happened in regard to this very difficulty? The people complained of high assessment, they brought forward resolutions in this House and the hon. the Home Member who, I think, was then in charge of this matter promised to revise the enhanced settlement rates in the light of the Land Revenue Bill which was going to be introduced in this House. He did bring a so-called Land Revenue Bill, but the provisions of it and the speech he made in support of it were such that no self-respecting Member of this House could possibly agree to its introduction.

"Then it was rightly thrown out and the hon. the Revenue Member took advantage to put into operation all the settlement rates recommended by the Settlement Officer and we unwittingly committed ourselves to the proposal that the maximum would not be more than 18½ per cent. Any man with a little reasoning power would infer therefrom that the maximum which the Government would impose on any land has not been reduced even by a third. I find the hon. the Revenue Secretary taking exception to my remarks. I may tell him that taking the case of Bellary district the lands under the Tungabhadra channel where the assessment was raised by 25 per cent was again reduced to 18½ per cent according to the new rule. But we have the black cotton soil in that district which depends not upon an assured supply of water but upon a precarious supply of water, and in this case also the Government want to raise the assessment by 18½ per cent. I ask whether it stands to reason that the two kinds of lands, the one depending upon an assured supply of water and the other upon a precarious supply, should be treated alike? I think the anomalies regarding the persistent policy of the Government are so many that the sooner they revise that policy the better will it be for them. I can go on adding many more instances. The position advanced is quite clear and to my mind unanswerable. I think the Government should suspend the collection of revenue till March and I do not see the justice of collecting land revenue long before the crop is harvested by the ryots. We can trust the honesty of the ryots and there is his land which stands as security if the ryot does not pay his kist. Is it seriously contended that the ryot will not pay his assessment but will allow the Government to sell his land in auction for a nominal price? I think we can trust the ryot to pay his assessment. Under these circumstances, I would urge upon the Government not to proceed with their collection but to suspend the same until such time as they make inquiries and are satisfied that the arrears are due. I am sure if Government were to adopt such a course it would enhance the prestige of the Government rather than make it suffer under the shortsighted policy which they are pursuing at present."

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* "Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—" It is extremely deplorable that the Government are dealing with their ryots in this most imperfect and tardy fashion. I may instance the fate of Tadpatri taluk. I have been receiving complaints after complaints that the crops there are very bad and that the people are not able to pay their assessment. I request the hon. the Revenue Member to look into the matter carefully and appoint a special officer to see that the ryots are not unjustly damnified. I may specially tell him that the black cotton soil is going to rack and ruin and that no cotton is likely to be harvested by the ryot. When that is the case and when the only crop is being devastated, it is rather hard to insist on a pound of flesh and collect the assessment of last year. It is also rather hard to collect takkavi loans this year. Previous investigations and final decisions are more necessary than preliminary collection and final remissions if the Government so choose."

The adjournment motion was put and carried.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council



APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 167 asked by Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 6th February 1925, page 364 supra]

G.O. No. 1186, P.H., dated 16th July 1923.

READ—the following papers :—

I

Letter from R. F. B. L. GUPPY, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Collector of South Arcot, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, dated Cuddalore, the 3rd March 1921, R.O.C. No. 113-21/B-4.

I refer to G.O. Mis. No. 1625 L., dated the 30th October 1917.

2. Estimate for anti-malarial measures at Vriddhachalam given in enclosures to the above Government Order amount to—

						RS.	A.	P.
Initial cost	...	...	...	...	...	7,500	0	0
Annual cost	...	...	...	...	...	840	0	0

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III

Non-official business.

MOTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST

REPRESENTATION OF THIYYA COMMUNITY IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

* Rao Bahadur P. RAMAN :—" Sir, I beg to move :

' That this Council recommends to the Government that provision may be made for the adequate representation of the Thiyya community in the higher grades of the Police Department, such as Deputy Superintendents, etc.'

" I understand (I speak subject to correction) that the number of assistant superintendents sanctioned for the Presidency is 30 and of deputy superintendents 40 or 41, partly directly recruited and partly reserved for subordinate police. There are also a few temporary and sub. *pro-tem*. deputy superintendents. Among these officers there is none belonging to the Thiyya community though it is a large and an important one with several educated and efficient members. Among them there are now four permanent inspectors and one acting inspector, all capable men who will fill higher posts with credit to themselves and to the community. I submit that in the absence of recruitment one of these inspectors can be promoted to the post of a deputy superintendent to begin with and two posts reserved for Thiyyas.

" The Thiyyas of Malabar have always been loyal to Government and they are ever grateful for the blessings they enjoy. But in view of the insistent demand for Provincial autonomy and Indianisation of the services I submit that the community deserves a place, consistent with the rights of other communities, in the higher grades of all the departments of Government for which its members are eligible. The hon. Member Rao Bahadur Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar in seconding the motion for Provincial autonomy on the 18th August 1924 said ' Provided that the interests of the various communities in our land are safeguarded we can have the highest privileges that can be given to any people under the British Empire.' And the hon. Member for the University said ' I agree that they ought to be protected, but the only question is what is the method.' So that I am not asking too much by this resolution.

" I therefore submit the resolution for the kind acceptance and favourable consideration of this hon. House and the Government.

" I wish to add a few words which I had not at first intended to say. There were amongst us some Deputy Collectors before. One of them did such meritorious work that the Government was pleased to grant him his full pay as pension. There are now four or five Deputy Collectors in active service. In the Judicial Department we had two Sub-Judges before. One of them was given the title of Diwan Bahadur. The other died last year in harness. My humble self retired as Acting Sub-Judge of Palghat. I mention these facts simply to show that when we could be trusted with the responsibilities of these offices, there is no reason why we should not be trusted with those of the Police."

* Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" Sir, in seconding this motion which has been so very ably moved by my hon. Friend, Rao Bahadur P. Raman, I have to state

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that he is an accredited leader of the Thiyya community in Malabar and that he is also held in high esteem by the respectable members of various other communities.

12-15 p.m. "What I wish to press is this. The Thiyyas in Malabar form a very large percentage of our population numbering about 7 lakhs. Among them more than 11 per cent are educated. They are a very loyal class and they are seen in many different walks of life in the public service. Before the reorganization of the present Police department, the Thiyyas were duly represented as inspectors of police; and I am told that they have done very creditable service at times when Government was faced with risings and other things for which Malabar is specially noted. After the reorganization, I see about half a dozen of Thiyyas in the Police department as inspectors of police; some of them are prosecuting inspectors, some railway police inspectors and some are in the City Police. And about a dozen of them are sub-inspectors. Sir, I know most of these people have done very creditable service during the Mappilla rebellion, and to my great sorrow and to the great disappointment of the Thiyya community, I find that when many of the colleagues of these Thiyya members of the Police service are promoted to the posts of deputy superintendents, it is a great pity, I may say, that not a single one of them is given a chance of getting a deputy superintendent's place. Sir, the elevation of a Thiyya to the place of a deputy superintendent will be a very great encouragement to that community in general and to the Thiyya sub-inspectors in particular. With these few words, I have very great pleasure in seconding the motion which has been moved by Mr. Raman."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASAN :—"Sir, I beg to move the following amendment to this resolution :—

*'That after the word "Thiyya", the following words be inserted :
"Ezhuva, Cheruma, Parayan and Nayadi" and that for the word
"community" the word "communities" be substituted.'*

"Sir, to-day there is not even a constable in Malabar from the communities mentioned by me in my amendment. It is already admitted that the Thiyyas are already in the Police department as inspectors and sub-inspectors, and in such a case, I do not see what good is derived by confining the benefit to the Thiyyas alone. Therefore by my amendment, I wish to extend the benefit contemplated by the resolution, to other backward communities as well."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Sir, I second the amendment. I welcome this amendment because I for one endorse every word that has fallen from the hon. Member that has spoken before, that Government cannot confine its attention to one neglected community alone. There are other neglected communities who have a claim on the appointments to the higher grades of the Police service, including, I should say, the Indian Christians. So, I urge that the claims of the neglected communities should be taken into consideration for the higher appointments in the Police department. With these words, I strongly second the amendment."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—"Sir, I should like to know from Mr. Srinivasan whether he refers to the higher appointments in the Police department or the lower appointments. From what I understand from Mr. Raman's resolution as well as his speech, this motion has reference only

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to the higher grades of the Police department such as deputy superintendents, etc. It is a well-known fact that among the Thiyya community there are several inspectors, sub-inspectors and other officers, whereas among the Cheruma, Nayadi and other communities there is hardly even a constable. Therefore I should like to know from Mr. Srinivasan whether he recommends the appointment of a deputy superintendent directly from among the Nayadis and others mentioned by him. If so, my point is whether there ought not to be a certain minimum educational qualification for holding these appointments, because among the Nayadis you cannot find one man who can read and write. So also among the Cherumas. It would therefore be meaningless if Mr. Srinivasan suggests that one of the higher posts should be given to one of these people at the outset."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASAN :—"The rules and regulations which we want to make now may not apply to old people like myself but they are intended for the rising and future generations. There are lots of constables from Malabar now in Madras, and they may be promoted. Their children may be educated and they may be allowed to rise to the higher posts afterwards."

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—"Personally I shall be the last man to object to the spirit of this amendment. But knowing as I do the condition of these people, I am afraid it is too soon to hope for giving effect to this amendment."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR—"Sir, in speaking on this motion, I want to keep the resolution and the amendment thereto distinct, the one from the other. So far as the original proposition is concerned, that is, the motion of my hon. Friend Mr. Raman, I am in hearty sympathy with it and support it. The Thiyya community is one that contains many educated and intelligent men. There are circle inspectors of police in that community now, and as my hon. Friend the Mover of the Resolution stated, there were in the past Deputy Collectors, and even now I think there is one. (A voice: 'There are four'). There are Sub-Judges, and my hon. Friend himself was an ornament to the Judicial Department as a Sub-Judge. The community is also growing in education, so that there is no reason whatever why deputy superintendents should not be appointed from this community. After all, all that the resolution says is this: It does not fix the Government to any proportion, but what it requests is an adequate representation of the Thiyya community in the higher grades of the Police department. Therefore I heartily support that proposition.

"With regard to the amendment of my hon. Friend Mr. Srinivasan, I believe my friend knows my views relating to the representation of the members of the depressed communities in the public service, and my views are known to the Mover of the resolution as well. But I doubt very much whether my Friend Mr. Srinivasan realizes the consequences of his amendment to the resolution. Now, as amended, the resolution would read thus:

'That this Council recommends to the Government that provision may be made for the adequate representation of the Thiyya, Ezhuva, Cheruma, Parayan and Nayadi communities in the higher grades of the Police department, etc.'

"I do not know whether the Cheruma and Nayadi communities exist in other parts of India, and I understand from my hon. Friend the Law Member . . ."

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Mr. R. VEERIAN :—“ On a point of order, Sir, may I know whether we can use the degrading and vulgar word ‘ Parayan ’ which has already been expunged from the Government records. I do not know why my hon. Friend the Mover of the amendment, Mr. Srinivasan, has forgotten to expunge this word from his amendment.”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ For the present, this word has been used in the amendment, and, like my hon. Friend Mr. Veerian, I myself thought of it and could not understand why Mr. Srinivasan used this word ‘ Parayan ’. Seeing that the word ‘ Parayan ’ is used in the amendment, I referred to that. My point was this: I do not know whether my hon. Friend Mr. Srinivasan or Mr. Saldanha fully realizes the consequence of the amendment that has been moved by the former. What the amendment asks the Government to do is this: to appoint members of the Nayadi, Cheruma and the other community already referred to by me (laughter) as deputy superintendents of police. To my knowledge, the members of the unmentionable community do exist in other parts of India, but the members of the Nayadi and Cheruma communities exist only in my unfortunate district. So far as I am aware, these two communities do not exist in other parts of the Presidency and to my shame as a native of Malabar I must admit that the way in which the Cherumas and Nayadis are treated is a disgrace to mankind. In the case of the Nayadis, they are not allowed to approach an ordinary human being within any reasonable distance. They have to stand at a very great distance and have to shout at the top of their voice begging for alms. It is not possible to find, as my hon. Friend Mr. Prabhakaran Tampam submitted to the House, one literate man in the whole community. In fact, even for begging for alms they have to stand at a distance of about three furlongs. As Swami Vivekananda once described, Malabar is a big lunatic asylum in this respect (‘ Hear, hear ’). When he was travelling in the district he found the Nayadis standing at long distances and shouting for alms. He made inquiries and he was informed that they were asking for alms and they were shouting at the top of their voice because they could not approach the members of the so-called higher communities. Then it was that he said that Malabar is a huge lunatic asylum”

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—“ On a point of order, Sir, can people from lunatic asylums be members of this Council ? ”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ There are sane men in lunatic asylums and lunatics in assemblies of wise men like this. That apart, my point is this. It is not possible, however much I sympathize with the members of the Nayadi community, for the Government even if they accept this amendment to give effect to the recommendation contained therein. It is only from that point of view that I point out this circumstance. The Cherumas are no doubt in a little more favourable position than the Nayadis, but they too are treated very badly. I believe that a few of the Cherumas are literate in the sense that they know how to read and write Malayalam, but I do not believe that there is a single member of that community who knows English.”

* Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN :—“ There is one member of the Cheruma community I know who has read up to the Fourth form.”

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—“ In fact I would be very glad if he is in a position to be appointed deputy superintendent of police. But my point with reference to the amendment is that whatever the educational qualifications of this particular member of the Cheruma community may be,

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there are considerable difficulties in the way of the Government giving effect to this amendment. I fully sympathize with the spirit underlying the amendment, but I believe there are practical difficulties in working it out. If it is passed, then the Government would be given a handle in not giving effect to it, because it is actually impossible to do it. If the original resolution is passed, it leaves something which is possible to be done. If it is accepted by the House or by Government, we can in any case at least heckle the Government now and then and ask them why they do not give effect to this resolution and so on. But in the case of the amendment, this would not be possible. In order that something practical may be done, I would request my hon. Friend to withdraw his amendment. I am in hearty sympathy with and fully support the original resolution."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Is Mr. Srinivasan going to withdraw his amendment?"

* Mr. R. SRINIVASAN :—"I wish to say one word about the use of the word 'paraiyan' in my amendment which has been called into question. 12-30 p.m. My difficulty was that we do not call the 'paraiyans' of Malabar by any other name as we do in the case of 'Adi-Dravida' or 'Adi-Andhra'. We do not call them 'Malayala Dravida'. That is why I had to describe them like that. I thought we will not be in any way degrading them. I know there was a sub-inspector among the Cherumas and his place was made very hot for him and he was dismissed. As I said before we are not making laws here for any particular person or any particular people. We are making laws for the rising and future generations. That is my view."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"So the hon. Member is not withdrawing."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, at the outset I think I may say this, that Government do not propose and have not passed any rules or regulations making it difficult for any member of any community referred to to attain to the rank of deputy superintendent or district superintendent of police. Nor in the administration of the departments which I have the honour to administer can it be said, Sir, and I can claim that credit, I think legitimately, that persons legitimately entitled to appointments or promotion are not given that appointment or promotion by reason of the circumstance that they belong to any particular community. Taking this very Thiyya community into consideration, Sir, I think it will be within the memory of this House that not long ago a very well-known member of this community was appointed to a place in the Madras Small Causes Court, and it cannot be said that the representatives of the Thiyya community have been depressed in the sense of their not being given adequate opportunities and privileges for getting into the public service. They are represented amongst the highest ranks of the public service. It has been rightly pointed out by the Mover of the resolution and others who have spoken on this matter that amongst the Thiyya community there are persons who occupy and who have occupied responsible positions in the executive and judicial administrations. Therefore so far as it is alleged that this resolution has been or is intended to convey the idea that there is any handicap or obstacle in the way of the members of the community attaining the rank to which they are entitled by reason of their equipment, I do not think it can be legitimately claimed that there is any obstacle. But my difficulty in accepting the resolution in the present form is twofold. In the first place as I have already mentioned on another occasion acting on the

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principles which I have enunciated in this House we have given up so far as direct recruitment is concerned all initiative rights of direct recruitment in the administration of the Police department and have handed powers of initiative in those matters to the Staff Selection Board as a nucleus of the future Public Service Commission. That apart there is no doubt that neither the Staff Selection Board nor the Government in the administration of the matter will, if there is a competent Thiyya available for appointment, have the slightest hesitation in appointing him. I think I can say with the full sense of responsibility from my place as a member of the Government that if any Thiyya is found competent for the task, the Inspector-General of Police has never hesitated in making the recommendations on the merits of the candidates as apart from the communities to which they belong, due provision being made for other claims. Nextly I do not think that in the administration of the department the Inspector-General has been deterred by the fact even of seniority to supersede others if it is shown that there is exceptional merit and that policy has been ratified by the Government. Therefore if a gentleman belonging to the Thiyya community is found to be fit to become a deputy superintendent there will be no obstacle to his becoming a member of that service. But the hon. Member went on to give instances of certain people who may be forthwith made deputy superintendents. I deprecate that kind of argument, because it will be difficult indeed if members belonging to various communities should say, 'Well, there are so and so who are inspectors and who may be made deputy superintendents.'

* Rao Bahadur P. RAMAN :—"One of the inspectors may be made."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"It is very difficult in these matters to mention names or to make even an approach to mention names. I find that the seniormost Thiyya inspector is 'second-class inspector and his number is 86'. That being so it would be difficult to accept the proposition. When the seniormost man is the 86th it will be very difficult indeed to call upon the Government to make him a deputy superintendent. There are difficulties in adopting such a step."

* Rao Bahadur P. RAMAN :—"I only want that one man should be appointed, whether he is a junior or senior."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"All that I can say as a Member of the Government is that if a Thiyya gentleman attains to the proper rank and when he becomes a first-class inspector he will have his chance. Government have not accepted and will never accept any handicap by reason of birth. We cannot accept the resolution as it is framed, because provision cannot be made in the department for a man who stands as the 86th in second-grade inspectors. If what is attempted to be done is the initiation of the principle that Thiyya gentleman of merit and of the requisite seniority should not be debarred from rising to the highest posts to which they are entitled, that is a resolution which the Government can accept. But in the conditions of this case to accept this resolution will be to supersede all other persons who are inspectors of the first grade and who have acted as deputy superintendents. Having made absolutely clear that the Government has done its best to the community and are willing to do so when there is nothing to stand in the way of their doing so, I hope the hon. Member will withdraw his resolution."

* Rao Bahadur P. RAMAN :—"In view of the remarks of the hon. the Law Member I beg to withdraw my resolution."

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MR. R. VEERIAN :—" I object to the withdrawal."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" There is an amendment in the hon. Member's name and I will allow him to speak on the amendment. Mr. R. Srinivasan's amendment will be first put to vote and then Mr. Veerian's amendment and then the original proposition."

MR. R. VEERIAN :—" Sir, I beg to move my amendment which runs as follows :

' After the word "Thiyya" in the second line, insert the words "and depressed"; for the word "community" substitute "communities" in the third line.'

" As amended, Sir, the whole proposition will read as follows :

' That this Council recommends to the Government that provision may be made for the adequate representation of the Thiyya and depressed communities in the higher grade of the Police department, such as the deputy superintendents, etc.'

" Sir, my amendment is a very simple one. Sir, the members of the depressed classes are noted for physical fitness. Their loyalty is beyond praise. Sir, their character is also beyond praise. The extraordinary qualities that are required in the Police department are physical fitness, capacity and character. What more qualifications are required in the Police department to give satisfaction to the public and the Government? Sir, can we say that the members of the depressed classes do not possess such extraordinary qualities? "

* The hon. MR. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I never said so, Sir."

MR. R. VEERIAN :—" If the changes are given to the so-called depressed classes, I am sure it will work like a magic wand. Sir, in certain number of cases pollution also will vanish. If they want to encourage the depressed classes, the so-called depressed classes, Sir, here is the chance. Sir, I have no idea to feel the pulse of the Government. I am sure, Sir, that the Government are always sympathetic in words to the depressed classes. I do not say, Sir, that the Government show only lip sympathy. Their sympathies are always at heart. I do not suspect it. Sir, here is the chance. Therefore I want to say to them that all their sympathies should be turned into practical sympathy. We are quite tired of the lip sympathies. What I want is representation in public services. That is what I am asking here. Sir, I handed over to the hon. the Law Member very recently a list which contained a number of members belonging to the depressed classes who had done meritorious service and who have put in a great number of years of service. Their claims were ignored."

* The hon. MR. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I think in deference to the sentiments which have emanated from the hon. Member who spoke last it is necessary for me to make the position of the Government in regard to the depressed classes quite clear. I may say that both with regard to the Judicial Department and the Police Department, the two departments for whose administration I am partly responsible, instructions have been given that the depressed classes should be given special encouragement if they were otherwise qualified. In a recent instance my hon. Colleague, the Minister for Education, has appointed a member of the depressed classes as one of the Assistant Professors of the Law College, one whom I had the honour of

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having as an apprentice. It seems to me, Sir, wherever it is possible Government have not been behind hand and will not be behind hand in encouraging the members of the depressed classes."

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"May I point out that several members of the depressed classes in the Andhra Desa who have done meritorious service and put in long years of service as sub-inspectors have not been promoted owing to the fact that the immediate superiors thought that there would be caste pollution? If they had been given opportunities they would have been superintendents of police and not deputy superintendents of police."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I think I must deprecate such a discussion as that, while I greatly appreciate the efforts of hon. Members like Mr. Veerian in pleading the case of the depressed classes. But there is one word that I desire to say which will be, I trust, of some little guidance and use. The effect of bringing out the cases of certain individuals in discussing these matters in this House may sometimes be quite the opposite of what the hon. Member intends. I would earnestly ask him not to do so but to put his representations before me and see what I can do in such matters. But to mention them in this House and to say that certain departmental superiors have not given adequate recognition of A or B because they belonged to a particular community may lead to that particular departmental officer becoming more critical than he would otherwise be. Therefore I would earnestly deprecate a discussion of that kind on the floor of this House. Let him not only appeal to me in the interest of the depressed classes, but let him enter my room and ask me why such and such a thing has been or has not been done. But let him not invite discussion on the floor of this House on such a matter in the very interest of the cause which the hon. Member wants to serve."

Mr. R. Srinivasan's amendment was then put and declared lost

Mr. R. Veerian's amendment was also then put and declared lost.

Mr. R. Veerian demanded a poll.

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"May I add one word and ask the hon. Member with all the earnestness I can command not to press his motion. I have said that, so far as the departments in my charge are concerned, I have given instructions that whenever it is possible these communities ought to be specially helped. I have said already that the rank of the senior Thiyya gentleman is No. 86 on the list, and the number of depressed classes among inspectors and sub-inspectors is practically nil. What is the use of this resolution at all? Is it going to affect anybody in any way?"

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"Have direct recruitment."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Does the hon. Member wish to press for a division?"

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—"No, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. the Mover of this resolution has expressed his wish to withdraw the resolution. Has he the leave of the House?"

The resolution was by leave withdrawn.

[6th February 1925]

IMPROVEMENT OF IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE IN THE GODAVARI AND
KISTNA DELTAS.

* Mr. M. SEETAYYA moved the following :—

'That this Council recommends to the Government that a committee consisting of a majority of non-officials be appointed to inquire and frame a scheme for the improvement of irrigation and drainage in the Godavari and Kistna deltas.'

In doing so, he said :—“అయ్యా, క్రిష్ణా గోదావరి డెల్టాలు—సదరు రెండు డెల్టాలు గోదావరి, క్రిష్ణ, గుంటూరు జిల్లాలకు సంబంధించియున్నవి. ఈ రెండు డెల్టాల తాలూకు ఇరిగేషన్ డ్రయినేజీ చాలా దుస్థితిగానున్నవి. ఇరిగేషన్ ప్రారంభములో డ్రయినేజీ సిస్టం ఏమి చేయక యిప్పటివరకు అట్టి స్థితిలోనే వుండివున్నది. క్రిష్ణ యీస్టరన్ గోదావరి వెస్టరన్ డెల్టాలకు ప్రక్కను సుమారు 10—15 మైళ్లలో కొద్ది సరస్సు వుండివున్నది. సదరు సరస్సు సదరు రెండు డెల్టాల తాలూకు సుమారు 80 మైళ్లదూరమునుంచి డెల్టాలకు వుత్తరమునుంచి అనాదీయముగా డెల్టాలకు పూర్వమునుంచి కొన్ని పెద్ద నదులు యీ డెల్టా కాల్వల దక్షిణముగా వెళ్లుతూవుండేవి. అవి సదరు కొద్ది సరస్సులోకి వెళ్లుతూవుండేవి. ఇదిగాక సదరు డెల్టా కాల్వల తాలూకు డ్రయినేజీ కూడా సదరు సరస్సులోకి యేర్పడినది. సదరు డ్రయినేజీ కాల్వలుగాని నదులుగా వున్న కాల్వలుగాని యే విధమున యింపూ వుంటు గవర్న మెంటువారు చేసివుండలేదు. ఎక్కడ నుంచి చేసివున్నయెక్కడ దరిమిలాను బహుకొద్దిగా చేసివుండురేమో. సదరు కొద్ది సరస్సులోకి వెళ్లే నీరు సహ్యాద్రంలోకి వెళ్లుటకు బహు చిన్న కాల్వలు వుప్పులేర్లు అని రెండు వున్నవి; వాటి పేర్లు (1) పేరంటాలు, (2) జువ్వకనుమ అనే పేర్లు వాడుచుండురు. అంత చిన్న కనుమలు అవుటవల్లను సరస్సులో నుంచి కొన్ని నెలలకుగాని నీరు పోదు. సదరు సరస్సు క్రమేపి పూరిపోయి మరక అభిరుచు వున్నందువల్ల సరస్సులో నీరు పట్టక పయికి వెరిగి సరస్సుకు చుట్టువున్న అనేక గ్రామముల తాలూకు శెటిల్ మెంటు వల్లం భూములలో నీరుపడి పయిర్లు నష్టము కావడమున్నూ ఆ నష్టముకు రయితకు గవర్న మెంటువారు రిమీషన్ యివ్వడమున్నూ కొన్ని భూములు యే అంతా పంట పండినయెడల రిమీషన్ లేకపోగా రయిత వ్యవసాయ ఖర్చులకు యీనా చాలకపోవడమున్నూ జరుగుచున్నది. సదరు కనుమలు యెప్పుడయినా కొద్ది మరపుతు చేసివున్నను అది యంత మాత్రం ఉపయోగం లేకుండా పోయినది. ఇదిగాక డెల్టాకు పూర్వం ఉన్న నదులుగాని డ్రయినేజీ కాల్వలుగాని పాడుగు వెడల్పు త్రవ్వడం కట్టలు లేకపోవడంవల్లను సాగుకు పూర్వంగాని దరిమిలానుగాని మురుగు వచ్చినయెడల సదరు కాల్వలకు యిరుక్కలను వుండే శెటిల్ మెంటు వల్లం భూములు పంటనష్టం అనేక విధములుగా జరుగుచున్నది. సదరు శెటిల్ మెంటు భూములు సదరు మురుగునల్లను యిసుక వొందురు పట్టి మరక అయి సాగు చేసుకొనుటకు వీలులేక చాలా కిష్టుతుగల భూములు నాశనమయి అయిపోయినవి. కొన్ని భూములు యిసుక వొందురు తీసివేయుటకు రైతు అనేక నష్టకష్టములకు లోనై వాధ పడుచున్నాడు.

“ఇరిగేషన్ కాలువలు—కాలువలు సరిఅయిన మరపుతులు లేక విశాలం లోతుకట్టలు లేకపోవడంవల్లను చాలా దుస్థితిగానుండున్నవి. సాగుబడి తరువాత నదులలోకి పూర్తి అయిన నీరు వచ్చినప్పుడు కాల్వలు దుస్థితివల్లను వదలవలసినంత నీరు హెడ్డుస్టానులవల్ల వదలకపోవడమున్నూ యెప్పుడయినా వకవేళ వదలినప్పటికి యే కాలువో తగిలిపోయి అది మరపుతు అయ్యేవరకు హెడ్డుస్టాను మాసివేయడమున్నూ అందువల్ల అన్ని కాల్వల

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[Mr. M. Seetayya]

సాగుకు నష్టం రావడమున్నూ జరుగుచున్నది. సాగుబడి లెఖ యే నెలలో యెంత జరిగేది గవర్నమెంటుకు తెలుస్తూనేవున్నది. దానివల్లను సాగుబడి సకాలంలో కావలసినదానికి యెంత ఆలస్యముగా జరుగుచుండేది కూడా తెలుస్తున్నది. సకాలం సాగుచేసినదానికి ఆలస్యంగా సాగుచేసినదానికి పంట నష్టం అధమము 8 అణాలు వుంటుంది. వై సంగతులు రైతులు డి.పి.డబ్ల్యు. ఆఫీసర్లతో విన్నవించుకుంటే గవర్నమెంటు డబ్బు యివ్వనిదే సుమేమి చేయ గలము అని సమాధానం చెప్పడమే జరుగుచున్నది. నీరు యిచ్చినా లేకపోయినా పండినా యెండినా గవర్నమెంటు శిస్తు మాత్రం మానదు. రైతు దుస్థితి యిట్లుగావున్నది. సదరు రెండు డెల్టాలవల్లను నూటికి సుమారు 20 రూపాయలపయిన గవర్నమెంటుకు ఆదాయం వచ్చుచుండగా క్రిష్ణ డెల్టాలో ప్రత్యేకం ఆయకట్టున దరోనా సదరు డెల్టాల అభివృద్ధికిని చెప్పి కొన్ని లక్షలు యీ సంవత్సరం వసూలుచేయుచున్నారు. ఈ సంగతి యిప్పటి కభ్యుక్త సిల్వారు అందరికి తెలిసిన విషయమే. ఇంత సొత్తు గవర్నమెంటువారికి లాభం కలుగుచున్నప్పటికి సదరు డెల్టాల అభివృద్ధిచేయకపోవడం చాలా అన్యాయం. రైతుయొక్క దరిద్రం యాలా తీరగలదో చెప్పజాలకున్నాను గనుక నేను తీసుకొనిన చివర యీ రిజల్యూషన్ తప్పక ఆమోదించగలరని కభ్యుక్త సిల్వారిని కోరుచున్నాను.”

* Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“ I have great pleasure in seconding this resolution, and in so doing I may take this opportunity of reminding this House of the number of representations made upon all the points raised regarding the irrigation in the Kistna and Godavari deltas and specially regarding the neglect of the drainage system there. I daresay many hon. Members of this House and those on the Government side who had the good fortune to be there as Collectors will bear me out in what I say in the matter of drainage. They were altogether neglected for a long time, and my hon. Friend Mr. Sitayya, who is himself one of the richest ryots in my part of the country, has had not only peculiar individual difficulties but he represents the difficulties of all the ryots of the Northern Circars. As this matter was very fully threshed out during the Irrigation Bill discussions, I do not propose to take the time of the hon. Members, but I would very earnestly urge on the hon. Member on the side of Government to take this point into their very serious consideration and to give relief as early as possible.

“ The resolution simply says that we might appoint a committee consisting of a majority of non-officials, and there is a point in that, Sir. It may be common knowledge by now that it is only the non-official representatives of the people that will have more opportunities of knowing the disadvantages from which the ryots suffer than the officials. I may just in passing make reference to a small incident not mentioning the individuals or officers concerned. There are certain officials who could not be approached by the ryots at all; in a rare case if anybody dared to approach them, it will end in a fiasco and not infrequently in a criminal case. Government may therefore take note of such caprices on the part of the Public Works Department and other officers. With these few words, I have great pleasure in commending this resolution to the favourable consideration of the House.”

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, this subject was definitely raised and given special prominence during the budget debate in a series of speeches made by the hon. Member Mr. Peddiraju, whom

[Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar] [6th February 1925]

I do not see in his seat to-day. He advised Government to get the help of non-officials in discussing the matter and to arrive at an early conclusion. I may say, Sir, that from 1917 onwards Government have laid down programmes for drainage improvements and for irrigation improvements in the Godavari and Kistna deltas, and I have before me a series of Government Orders which I have issued in connexion with this topic. But at the present moment, so far as I understand the speech made by the hon. the Mover with my imperfect acquaintance of the Telugu language, I may say that the two chief complaints that he made were firstly that while there was a great deal of income derived from lands of these deltas by the Government, yet when programmes for improving the drainage and irrigation projects were put forward, want of funds were pleaded as an excuse. Well, all I can say is that . . .

Mr. B. Venkataratnam asked in Telugu what rate of income per cent Government realized from the irrigation system in the deltas.

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I cannot give the figures now. It is now true that in the Trichinopoly and Tanjore tracts on the one hand and in the Godavari and Kistna tracts on the other the incomes are undoubtedly considerable. On the other hand, hon. Members will bear in mind that irrigation schemes cannot be dealt with in that individual fashion. The Presidency as a whole must be taken into account."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—"I hope the hon. Member will remember that when the case of the Ceded districts is concerned."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Surely, if anything, the hon. Member from Cuddapah must realize that whenever he and his hon. Colleague put forward any recommendation with regard to Cuddapah they have received due attention from me, and as a matter of fact I accepted a resolution not many hours ago.

"But to go back. I was saying that there was no doubt of the fact that there was considerable surplus income derived from that particular project. But the Presidency as a whole must be considered. But what I desire to dwell on at this moment is that in connexion with the irrigation legislation which has been passed we have a number of boards, and these have to be constituted and they will have to function in many ways.

"They will have to function firstly in deciding upon the complicated
1 p.m. relationship between the ryots and the Government and the zamindari and the ryotwari ryots. Secondly, they will act as advisory bodies and will be constituted without any avoidable delay as soon as the irrigation schemes are fairly settled. It is therefore much better to go on these lines rather than by appointment of *ad hoc* bodies especially as in no very distant date we will have the other committees appointed. With that assurance I trust the hon. Mover will see his way to withdrawing the resolution."

Mr. M. SEETAYYA said in Telugu that he had no objection to withdraw the resolution.

The resolution was then by leave withdrawn.

6th February 1925]

SEPARATION OF JUDICIAL AND EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS.

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ Mr. President, Sir, the resolution that stands in my name runs as follows :

‘ That this Council recommends to the Government that effect be given from the 1st April 1925 to the proposals of the separation of the judicial and executive functions throughout the Presidency. ’

“ Sir, I do not think that very many words are necessary from me to commend this resolution to the acceptance of the House.”

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ May I make a statement which might probably curtail discussion ? As a matter of fact, in obedience to the directions of the Government of India we have sent up our proposals and the discussion in this House relating to the separation of the judicial and executive functions. About four days ago knowing that the discussion on the resolution will be coming up now, the Government of India were asked whether they had come to any decision with regard to the matter and they have replied to say that they have not yet come to a decision ; but I understand that they will come to a speedy decision.

“ I hope this statement will enable hon. Members not to make lengthy speeches.”

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ So far as I am concerned, the hon. the Law Member knows perfectly well that my speeches are not generally very lengthy.”

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I do not at all mean to allude to any person or to any hon. Member nor do I make any complaint on that score. All that I am saying is that the gist of what is wanted may be embodied in speeches.”

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—“ Taking the suggestions that came from the hon. the Law Member as my cue, I shall try and finish what I have to say as briefly as possible.

“ As I have been saying I believe only very few words are necessary from me, to commend this resolution to the acceptance of this House, for this is an old old, but none the less urgently needed, reform which had been urged upon the Government for over forty years by every public body but in vain. The arguments for the separation of the judicial and executive functions have been advanced *ad nauseam* for several years, but yet the unsympathetic Government has remained unmoved. In pursuance of a resolution passed by the last Legislative Council on 22nd September 1922, the Government was pleased to appoint a committee to consider the long agitated for question of the separation of judicial and executive functions, it is surprising that the Government have not yet come forward with their orders on the report submitted by the said Committee in April 1923. I trust sincerely that this Committee was not appointed by the Government as is usually the case with several other committees more with the object of yielding to the clamour than with the object of giving effect to any of the urgently needed reforms. The majority report, Sir, puts forward very simple suggestions with reference to this matter and as they explain, the cost involved in their suggestions is only between 2·5 lakhs and 3·75 lakhs. There is the report of my hon.

[Mr. P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu] [6th February 1925]

Friend, Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar, and the dissenting minute of the hon. Member, Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar, which raise various other points. I am only anxious that the Government should take us into their confidence and let us know what they are going to do with reference to this much-needed reform. I desire that Government should give an opportunity for the Council to discuss the various recommendations of the Committee and come to certain conclusions on them at an early date. I think it is only fair that before final orders are passed by the Government this Council should have an opportunity of expressing its views thereon. I don't know, Sir, whether it will not be possible for the Government to bring in, by way of a resolution, their proposals on the subject, and get the decision of the House thereon. As I have said several months have already elapsed since the report was published and yet there is no sign of the Government coming forward with any orders thereon.

"There are certain recommendations contained in the majority report with which I radically disagree. The proposal that the appointment of Stationary Sub-Magistrates and First-Class Magistrates up to Rs. 600 should vest in the High Court is a proposal which I do not think the hon. the Law Member, especially after what he has heard during the last two days, would accept. Is it too much to expect, Sir, that the separation of judicial and executive functions will be given effect to at least from the next official year? This separation is highly necessary for a really effective advance towards self-government. The Imperial Government having conceded that greater autonomy should be given and that local bodies should be invested with greater powers, is it not fair at least now, when the reforms have been in force for sometime, to expect that one of the steps tending to the advancement of self-government should be granted, viz., the separation of judicial from executive functions. The reforms will be divested of much of their value unless this separation is given effect to, and the executive and judicial functions are placed in charge of responsible persons thoroughly independent in the discharge of their duties and free from that incubus of the present system which combines in the district executive officers magisterial powers, besides placing the police officers under them. I shall not detain the Council with a statement of all the various reasons which had been advanced times out of number in support of the plea of separation of judicial and executive functions. Suffice it to say the want of confidence in the administration has been the cause of anarchism. If the Government had yielded to public opinion and moved in this matter early, there would have been no occasion to pass emergency Ordinances. They would not have faced anarchism, rebellion and rioting in various places. The lack of confidence in the subordinate officials possessing both the judicial and executive functions is the sole cause of these troubles.

"An independent judiciary is the greatest safeguard of the constitution and it is the ultimate refuge of a subject's rights and liberties, and I therefore urge upon the Government in the name of Law and Order, which is one of their essential duties to maintain, to take early steps to have this urgent reform effected. My task in this matter has been made much easier by reason of the fact that the hon. Member in the Treasury Bench in charge of Law and Order had, even before he began to grace the floor of this House with his presence and fell a prey to the blandishments of his new born love in the Council Chamber, been advocating this reform from various platforms and I

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am also aware, Sir, that one at least of the hon. the Ministers had not been lacking in his earnestness in appealing to the Government to have this much-needed reform effected.

"I would, therefore, suggest, Sir, and the suggestion has Parliamentary precedents behind it, that the hon. Law Member pass final and favourable orders on the report of the Committee appointed in pursuance of a resolution passed by this Council on 22nd September 1922. I wish he comes forward on the next official day with a list of resolutions on this subject and gets the opinion of the House thereon.

"With these words I commend the resolution standing in my name to the unanimous acceptance of this House."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"Sir, I beg to second the proposition. And, taking the advice of the hon. the Law Member I shall not be very long in my speech. It has always been the peculiarity with the Treasury Bench . . ."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"May I ask the hon. Member who moved the resolution whether he would insist on the date mentioned in the resolution, viz., 1st April 1925, remaining as it is; for, in that case I shall have to take a different attitude. But if he is willing to amend those words the matter is different."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU:—"I have no objection to making an alteration, say, by fixing the date as not later than six months or three months."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"If the hon. the Law Member will himself bring such an amendment we shall have no objection to it. As I was saying, ever since the reforms came in, the Treasury Bench has the peculiarity, whenever a question is asked, no matter how urgent, of saying that the matter is under consideration. We have had a number of occasions when the Treasury Benches resorted to this useful phrase. . ."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"It is not a very useful phrase. The fact is, in deference to the wishes of this Council, I telegraphed about a week ago to the Government of India, and this telegram I have in my hands regarding the separation of the judicial and executive functions is the reply that I have received. It states:

'the question still under consideration. Home',

the last word meaning the Home Member who is in charge of it. The telegram was despatched on the 2nd and it reached us on the 3rd February."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"I was coming to the fortunate position of the hon. the Law Member after dealing with the position of the Treasury Bench as a whole. They have always been closing our mouth, or at any rate attempting to close it by saying that the matter is under the consideration of the Government. Well, Sir, if the Limitation Act is to be of any use it is by way of amending it in one useful direction, viz., by enacting that no matter shall be under the consideration of the Local Government for more than such and such a period. That will be of some use to us. Otherwise matters will always be under consideration from year to year, from decade to decade and probably from century to century. I have to congratulate the hon. the Law Member that he is able to put off everything by saying that the matter is under his consideration, his sympathetic

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consideration ; and he has been always bringing to his rescue the statement that the matter is under the urgent consideration, sympathetic consideration, careful consideration of”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I think it would facilitate matters if the hon. Member would say whether he accepts the resolution in the amended form.”

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ As I have said already we shall cheerfully accept an amendment if the hon. Member will himself bring it.”

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ I am not in a position to accept any resolution ; because, I do not know what the conclusions of the Government of India will be. When they are still considering it I cannot very well say that I accept any particular resolution. I cannot really do that. All that I can say is, this is a reserved subject and the Right Hon. the Secretary of State and the Government of India are entitled to impose mandates upon us and their directions are binding upon us. All that I can say therefore is what I have said already about it.”

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Knowing that it would be so, I have said already that it is no use to us if the Government is going to say that the matter is under their mere consideration or even sympathetic consideration. It is absolutely useless to us. Because, when this matter came before us we had gone on with it and the matter is known to us and so far as the Council is concerned the resolution was passed in the Legislative Council, a committee was appointed and everything was done. But the Government, as in everything else, are moving slowly ; perhaps the Government wheel moves always slowly.

1-15 p.m. “ In this matter, they moved much more slowly, and after long hesitation, the Committee was appointed. It consisted of several responsible officers and non-officials, and after a long time, again, in the Committee rooms, the report was drafted. It is after all a compromise report. Some of us wrote very elaborate and strong minutes of dissent. But we would be satisfied if reasonable beginnings were made. The report was placed before this House, and the House by a practically unanimous resolution, wanted that immediate steps should be taken on that report. We are now in a position—I do not know whether it is a fortunate position—of being told by the hon. the Law Member, not that this Government was going to consider the question—I speak subject to correction—but that the Secretary of State was going to consider the matter. This is a matter on which the Government has got some responsibility to the House apart from the fact that it belongs to reserved half. Of course, some steps must be taken by this House to force the Government to proceed with the matter instead of waiting for the opinion of the Government of India to be expressed. Unless we force this Government to do something tangible, there is no use. When I use the word ‘ force ’, I mean moral force ; the only force we can use on the reserved half, is by passing this resolution unanimously. The Treasury bench may not vote with us if we pass any resolution saying that this matter shall be brought up at once. There is no question of compromise here. If Government will not do that—I do not know if some of us will go so far—we will not sanction the grant under this head. But whatever it may be, whether we make speeches or not—we have made enough of speeches—we must clearly make the Government know our feeling in the matter and insist

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on this matter being brought as early as possible, the next earliest moment is when the new official year begins, because we know if the budget is passed and the Council passes the various grants, there will be no chance of this matter coming up for another year at least. They may take some more years or decades. Whether our friends non-co-operate or not at the time of the budget I strongly feel that this subject must be taken at the earliest opportunity, or else we will not sanction the particular grant. Of course, His Excellency, on the advice of the reserved half, might certify. But I do not think it will be necessary if we unanimously pass this resolution saying that we insist upon effect being given to this in 1st April 1925.

"After all, it is not a very difficult thing. The hon. the Law Member said some years ago—I do not mean the particular Law Member—I mean the officer who was in charge of the Law Department—that they were going to make a beginning, and they thought that a beginning was made by appointing two first-class magistrates. We were not satisfied with that. We do not know the persons who are responsible for the note prefacing the Committee's report. Whoever it may be, the Government in that note were prepared to go some steps in advance of the present stage. Now the Secretary of State and the Government of India have come to their rescue. They are not going to take any steps now. The reform is most urgent. These words of the Government of India that they are considering the matter will not take us one step further. Therefore I appeal to the House as a whole to pass this resolution unanimously and to show to the Government that if our resolutions were not treated with that consideration which we expect from Government we know how to retort, at least to some extent."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Mr. President, I am afraid I have been very unsuccessful in my argument, judging from the reception that it has met at the hands of my hon. Friend, the Member from Coimbatore. A general discussion of the question was raised during the last budget meeting and the vote taken on the budget at that time was taken to indicate that the House had accepted the majority report of the Committee, including my friend from Coimbatore. Now, subsequent to that, the Government of India has begun to consider the topic as an all-India question. They have been considering it, and in order if possible to make a definite statement, as to any conclusion that the Government of India might have arrived at, either by approval or ratification of the report, either on the majority report or on the minority report, this Government telegraphed to the Government of India as to whether they have come to a decision. I, Sir, at an earlier stage of the report, read to the House the reply from the Government of India in which they say they are considering the subject. Now my hon. Friend from Coimbatore has stated that if no decision is arrived at and the scheme is not carried, he would advise his colleagues to non-co-operate throughout the budget season."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"I said only one grant, i.e., Criminal Justice."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"That seems to be a drastic remedy and a somewhat cruel remedy so far as this Government is concerned. My hon. Friend knows this question is an all-India question and they have taken it and treated it as such. I take it that pressure will be exercised upon the Government of India and is being exercised in other quarters also. But

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I think it would facilitate matters if the hon. Member would say whether he accepts the resolution in the amended form.”

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ As I have said already we shall cheerfully accept an amendment if the hon. Member will himself bring it.”

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* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Knowing that it would be so, I have said already that it is no use to us if the Government is going to say that the matter is under their mere consideration or even sympathetic consideration. It is absolutely useless to us. Because, when this matter came before us we had gone on with it and the matter is known to us and so far as the Council is concerned the resolution was passed in the Legislative Council, a committee was appointed and everything was done. But the Government, as in everything else, are moving slowly ; perhaps the Government wheel moves always slowly.

1-15 p.m. “ In this matter, they moved much more slowly, and after long hesitation, the Committee was appointed. It consisted of several responsible officers and non-officials, and after a long time, again, in the Committee rooms, the report was drafted. It is after all a compromise report. Some of us wrote very elaborate and strong minutes of dissent. But we would be satisfied if reasonable beginnings were made. The report was placed before this House, and the House by a practically unanimous resolution, wanted that immediate steps should be taken on that report. We are now in a position—I do not know whether it is a fortunate position—of being told by the hon. the Law Member, not that this Government was going to consider the question—I speak subject to correction—but that the Secretary of State was going to consider the matter. This is a matter on which the Government has got some responsibility to the House apart from the fact that it belongs to reserved half. Of course, some steps must be taken by this House to force the Government to proceed with the matter instead of waiting for the opinion of the Government of India to be expressed. Unless we force this Government to do something tangible, there is no use. When I use the word ‘ force ’, I mean moral force ; the only force we can use on the reserved half, is by passing this resolution unanimously. The Treasury bench may not vote with us if we pass any resolution saying that this matter shall be brought up at once. There is no question of compromise here. If Government will not do that—I do not know if some of us will go so far—we will not sanction the grant under this head. But whatever it may be, whether we make speeches or not—we have made enough of speeches—we must clearly make the Government know our feeling in the matter and insist

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the idea of the Mover seems to be to indicate the strong current of feeling that animates us, to precipitate the action of the Government of India and thereby also to precipitate a favourable consideration of the subject. I think in that spirit, the hon. Mover has thought fit to bring this resolution, not to embarrass the Government of India but merely with a view to lay before that Government our feelings in the matter and the necessity for the matter being expedited and given effect to in the immediate future."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I do not propose to occupy the Council very long on this question. I want to make some suggestions to the hon. the Law Member in connexion with this question. I have very little to say on the merits of the question, the separation of the judicial and executive functions.

"But I want to suggest that seeing that this is a very important question on which there is very strong feeling among all sections of the House and the public generally, any decision of the Government of India or of this Government should not be precipitated without giving an adequate opportunity for the House to express its own opinion thereon. I want to suggest this procedure which I see is very often adopted in the Assembly, but which I see is not adopted in this House. The Government of India moves resolutions in the Assembly expressing its views as regards what it is going to do on very vital questions and inviting discussion thereon in the Assembly so as to have the opinion of non-official members. Now, the hon. the Law Member says that this Government have come to some conclusions on this matter. What those conclusions are we are not aware of. The hon. the Law Member said that the majority of the House had given an indication of the fact that they are prepared to support the majority report. I am not quite sure of that. For I find that there are one or two points on which there is a very wide difference of opinion. We are in this position that we are absolutely in the dark as to whether the Local Government has accepted all the provisions of the majority report or only some of them, whether they have modified any of these proposals or whether they are in a position to make new proposals. Over and above that, we have the further difficulty that the Government of India might revise the proposals of the Local Government in their turn and modify them or alter them or cancel them. So that the final thing that will emerge from all these three authorities may have no relationship at all either with the report of my hon. Friend Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar or even with the majority report. And, if that hybrid scheme or, if I may be permitted to say so, that mongrel scheme is going to be put forward as the scheme for the separation of judicial and executive functions, we will be in a very much worse position than when these two functions are conjointly working. If the hon. the Law Member will undertake, on behalf of the Government, to put forward in this House a series of resolutions from the Government Bench suggesting what course of action they are prepared to take in connexion with this scheme for the separation of judicial and executive functions either now or after they have received orders from the Government of India, I would propose, and my hon. Friend the Mover would accept, a small amendment to postpone the working of the scheme for separation till September 1925, or till any other reasonable date. I do not want him to say that after the Government of India have passed orders the matter has reached such a state of finality that no revision either by this House or at the instance of this House is possible. That is the

[Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [6th February 1925]

difficulty that I feel. What is the stage at which this House can effectively intervene? What is the stage at which it can advise the Government so that the Government may take advantage of it? These are things with which I am not very well acquainted seeing that I have had nothing to do with them. I have had nothing to do with the administration as such, of judicial and executive functions."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I hope he will soon be in the Treasury Bench."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" That is said at once."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I will be satisfied if my prophecy is fulfilled."

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I am thankful to him. The hon. Member may be a better prophet than he is aware of. Now, these are our difficulties and I do request the hon. the Law Member to tell us that he will give us an opportunity for discussing these proposals."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" My only excuse for getting up at this moment is that what I am going to say might curtail discussion. This is a subject, Mr. President, which has engaged the earnest attention of publicists not only of this Presidency but throughout India for a long time. I take it that the orders of the Government of India on this subject will not form a cut and dry scheme which will apply to all provinces, but will only be the enunciation of certain principles and an attempt to elucidate public opinion. Whatever it be, if it is at all possible—and our hands are not definitely tied by the Government of India to a different course—I undertake to place any communiqué or anything that is received by the Government of India before this House and that this Government will not move in the matter before this House has had an opportunity to consider all the aspects of the resolution or communiqué of the Government of India."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" After the promise made by the hon. the Law Member I do not think I shall be advised in pressing my motion. I beg to withdraw it."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The House then adjourned for lunch (1-36 p.m.).

After Lunch 2-30 p.m.

II—cont.

MOTION FOR THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE TO DISCUSS THE RIGOROUS COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE IN THE TANJORE DISTRICT.

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move the adjournment of the business of the Council to consider an urgent matter of public importance, namely, the situation created in the Tanjore district by the rigorous collection of the enhanced land revenue even from lands that have not been cultivated, before any orders have been passed on the remission applications, and even in spite of the present famine-stricken condition of the district when a large extent of land is uncultivated and the yield of the cultivated lands is very much below the normal."

" It is natural that to begin with, the attention of hon. Members of this House should be directed to some of the aspects which are implied in the

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IN THE TANJORE DISTRICT

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* "Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—" It is extremely deplorable that the Government are dealing with their ryots in this most imperfect and tardy fashion. I may instance the fate of Tadpatri taluk. I have been receiving complaints after complaints that the crops there are very bad and that the people are not able to pay their assessment. I request the hon. the Revenue Member to look into the matter carefully and appoint a special officer to see that the ryots are not unjustly damnified. I may specially tell him that the black cotton soil is going to rack and ruin and that no cotton is likely to be harvested by the ryot. When that is the case and when the only crop is being devastated, it is rather hard to insist on a pound of flesh and collect the assessment of last year. It is also rather hard to collect takkavi loans this year. Previous investigations and final decisions are more necessary than preliminary collection and final remissions if the Government so choose."

The adjournment motion was put and carried.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council



APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 167 asked by Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 6th February 1925, page 364 supra]

G.O. No. 1186, P.H., dated 16th July 1923.

READ—the following papers :—

I

Letter from R. F. B. L. GUPPY, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Collector of South Arcot, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, dated Cuddalore, the 3rd March 1921, R.O.C. No. 113-21/B-4.

I refer to G.O. Mis. No. 1625 L., dated the 30th October 1917.

2. Estimate for anti-malarial measures at Vriddhachalam given in enclosures to the above Government Order amount to—

						RS.	A.	P.
Initial cost	...	...	...	...	...	7,500	0	0
Annual cost	...	...	...	...	...	840	0	0

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3. My estimate based on more detailed information is as follows:—

Initial cost—

	RS.	A.	P.]
Cost of acquiring 50 acres land	22,000	0	0
Clearing jungle—Rs. 20 per acre	1,000	0	0
Forming channels	250	0	0
Planting seedlings	500	0	0
Fencing and contingencies	1,250	0	0
	25,000	0	0

Annual cost—

Supervision	240	0	0
Labour and repairs to fence	660	0	0
	900	0	0

4. Even the above is in my opinion an under-estimate. The scheme is to make a plantation 50 acres in extent under public supervision. Experience shows that this will not work. Public agriculture is not usually successful.

5. The valuation statement for acquisition is now before me. It amounts to Rs. 21,812-8-3 and probably the Land Acquisition officer will have to exceed this figure.

6. The Assistant Surgeon now stationed at Vriddhachalam says that malaria is not prevalent. I have considerable personal acquaintance with malaria and am convinced that malaria in Vriddhachalam is rare and sporadic. Only a very restricted locality is really within the radius of infection. Outside this area occasional cases occur. A thoroughly insanitary drinking water tank is responsible for much sickness mistaken for malaria.

7. In these circumstances, I solicit orders whether Government will allot a further sum of Rs. 14,500 in order to enable the land acquisition to proceed.

II

Memorandum No. 4634-1, P.H., dated 6th April 1921.

Referred to the Surgeon-General (Sanitary) for remarks.

(By order)

B. RAMA RAU,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Surgeon-General (Sanitary).

III

Letter from Lieut.-Col. T. H. SYMONS, O.B.E., I.M.S., Acting Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras (Sanitary), to the Secretary to Government, Local Self-Government (Public Health) Department, dated 17th May 1921, D. No. 1131-S.

In returning the South Arcot Collector's letter No. 113-21/B-4, dated 3rd March 1921, received with Memorandum No. 4634-1, P.H., dated the 6th April 1921, I have the honour to forward for the information of Government the accompanying report of the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, Central Range, on the prevalence of malaria in Vriddhachalam town and to state as follows,

[6th February 1925]

2. From the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner's report, it is evident that malaria is prevalent in Pudupet and in the town area north of the temple, while the main part of the town is more or less free. In the light of the information given by the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner the marsh must be the source of the malaria and malaria will be endemic in the neighbourhood so long as the marsh is undrained. Whilst probably Pudupet could be completely evacuated without much inconvenience, it is for the Sanitary Engineer in consultation with the local authorities to decide what measures should be taken to protect the inhabitants in the area of the town north of the temple.

ENCLOSURE

Letter from Dr. S. JESUDOSS, B.A., M.B.C.M., D.P.H. (Cantab.), F.R.C.S.E., Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, Central Range, to the Sanitary Commissioner, Memo. No. 1662-C., dated Madras, the 3rd May 1921.

With reference to your U.O. Memo. No. 3263-1/S., dated 20th April 1921, I have the honour to state that I visited Vriddhachalam on 23rd ultimo and investigated into the present state of malaria in the town and submit the following report.

2. With reference to the prevalence of malaria, the town is roughly divisible into three areas:

(1) Pudupet and its neighbourhood on the north bank of the river, where the fever is reported to be much prevalent;

(2) the two rows of houses in Vriddhachalam proper on the south bank of the river and to the north of the big temple, including Ramachandrapet, where the fever is said to be also bad though to a lesser degree; and

(3) the rest of the town lying south of the temple, including the West Cotta Street and styled the 'interior', where fever is not reported to any noticeable degree.

3. The spleen index for each area was tried separately with the following results:—

Spleen Index.

Area.	Number of children inspected.	Nil.	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	Total Spleens.	Per cent.
1. Pudupet	28	12	3	3	4	3	3	16	57
2. North of temple	26	12	5	2	5	2	0	14	53
3. Interior	117	106	3	3	1	1	3	11	9

Nil—No enlargement; I—Costal margin or 1 finger; II—2 fingers; III—3 fingers; IV—To umbilicus; V—Beyond umbilicus.

4. Examination of peripheral blood in a few random cases gave the following results:—

—	Number of films examined.	Number infected.	Benign tertian.	Malignant tertian.
Pudupet	6	4	3	1
North of temple	4	Nil.	..	..
Interior	22	Nil.	..	..

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5. What is called Pudupet now consists of about forty houses or rather mud huts, mostly Muhammadan, being the remnants of the settlers who moved out of the adjacent old Pudupet area, which is now the marsh. These huts are very close to the marsh, which has been reported by the Special Malaria Officer to be the main breeding ground of anopheles.

I made a house-to-house inspection of almost every house in this area and in almost every house there was a case of enlarged spleen either of a child or of an adult and a good number were either suffering from fever at my visit or gave a history of frequent attacks of fever and ague; and as shown above in paragraphs 3 and 4, this area is the worst infected portion in Vriddhachalam.

6. Of the main town, the portion lying north of the temple, which is reported to be partially infected showed a spleen index not very far below that of Pudupet, although no malarial parasites were detected in the few blood films that were examined. The houses in this area are almost abandoned as the locality had gained a bad reputation during the past years owing to frequent attacks of fever.

7. Throughout the rest of the town, commencing from the South Cotta Street and including the West Cotta Street, a few cases of splenic enlargement were noticed, but no malarial parasite was found in the twenty-two films examined, though I saw here and there a few fever patients among the newcomers to the town and heard of frequent attacks of ague and fever generally.

8. *Conclusions.*—(1) Malaria in Vriddhachalam is very badly prevalent in what is called the present Pudupet area, on which account the inhabitants of this area are being gradually and steadily reduced in number.

(2) The block of houses situated to the north of the temple is within the zone of infection on which account the houses are being steadily abandoned.

(3) The rest of the town for the present may be considered to be generally outside the radius of infection.

(4) The main source of infection is the marsh adjacent to the present Pudupet area, being the main breeding ground of mosquitoes and where malaria may be said to be endemic.

(5) The condition of the marsh remains the same as has been reported by the Special Malarial Officer and the Sanitary Engineer and on that account an epidemic of malaria may break out at any time.

(6) The marsh must be thoroughly drained and necessary measures therefor will have to be undertaken. But whether a less expensive measure than the one now contemplated could not effect this is a question worth some consideration.

9. The inhabitants of Pudupet are willing to move out of the present locality and to settle down on a healthier site such as beyond the taluk office on the Cuddalore road. This must receive due and early consideration.

10. This report could not be submitted earlier as the report from King Institute on the films was not received till to-day.

[6th February 1925]

IV

Memorandum No. 17093-3, P.H., dated 6th February 1923.

The reports from the Director of Public Health and the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils read above are communicated to the Collector of South Arcot for very early remarks.

(By order)

B. RAMA RAO,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of South Arcot.

V

Letter from P. C. DUTT, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of South Arcot, to the Secretary to Government, Local Self-Government Department, dated Cuddalore, the 5th March 1923, R. Dis. No. B-4-113-21.

[Reference :—Government Memorandum No. 17093-3, P.H., dated the 6th February 1923.]

I inspected Pudupet and the streets on the opposite side of the river, Barber's kuttai, etc. I agree with the Special Officer that it is unnecessary to acquire Pudupet. An experienced anti-malarial officer may be sent and he may indicate what lands in Pudupet should be acquired for channels to drain off water. I cannot say whether it is necessary to acquire even the wet fields in Pudupet by the side of the river. If the malarial officer thinks their acquisition necessary, he will no doubt report so. In the meantime I can find out how much their acquisition would cost.

As regards the extension of the town towards the taluk office, a beginning may be made by building quarters for the Tahsildar, Sub-Magistrate and the clerks of the taluk office. If the Public Works Department has finally condemned the District Munsif's court building, a new building may be built near the taluk office as also quarters for the Munsif. Similarly, the present hospital, which is said to be in hopeless disrepair, may be condemned and a new one built in the extension site with quarters for the Assistant Surgeon also. As regards the school, the children will have to come a long distance if the proposed secondary school is built near the taluk office till a new town actually grows up in its vicinity. If the above buildings are erected, the town will expand in this direction. At this stage it seems unnecessary to do anything more in the way of town-planning.

Order—No. 1186, P.H., dated 16th July 1923.

The Government have had under their consideration for some time past the question of eradicating malaria in Vriddhachalam. The Surgeon-General, the Director of Public Health and the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards have, at the request of the Government, personally inspected the town and their reports are appended to this order. Their recommendations fall under two heads—

- (a) Anti-malarial operations in the existing town, and
- (b) Formation of a new town near the taluk office.

2. *Anti-malarial operations in the existing town.*—The Government agree with the Inspector that this work is more urgent and important than the planning of a new town and that it should have precedence. They agree that the acquisition of the whole of Pudupet marsh on the eastern side of the river running through the town is unnecessary and that it should be drained

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by means of channels leading into the river. An intensive anti-malarial campaign should be carried out in the town in addition to detailed investigation into the sources of infection.

3. The Government consider that a Sub-Assistant Surgeon trained in anti-malarial work should be employed if effective measures are to be carried out. The Surgeon-General is requested to place at the disposal of the District Board a Sub-Assistant Surgeon who has had experience of anti-malarial work. The Sub-Assistant Surgeon will work under the District Health Officer. He should make a detailed investigation, trace the sources of infection and find out what lands have to be acquired to drain the marsh area and for such anti-malarial operations as are absolutely necessary to eradicate malaria in the town. A report on these points should at a very early date be submitted to the Government by the officer through the Collector, the Director of Public Health and the Surgeon-General, on receipt of which the question of land acquisition will be considered. The Government consider that the works recommended by the Inspector and such other works as are found absolutely necessary as a result of the above investigation should be carried out under the supervision of an experienced anti-malarial officer and that a quarterly report on the progress of work done should be submitted to the Government.

4. The Government accept the recommendation of the Inspector that the grant of Rs. 11,400 given for the work, which was resumed by the Government, should be re-allotted. As however no specific provision has been made in the Civil Budget Estimate for the current year for this purpose, the grant will be met from the lump provision of Rs. 8 lakhs for grants for water-supply and drainage schemes under '33-B. Public Health'. The amount will be disbursed subject to the conditions—

(1) that any excess over this sum is met entirely by the local boards concerned;

(2) that the operations are carried out to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Health; and

(3) that a certificate that the expenditure has been incurred and works executed properly accompanies the application for grants.

5. *Formation of a new town.*—The President of the South Arcot District Board is requested to consult the presidents of Vriddhachalam taluk and union boards and report whether they agree to the extension of the Madras Town-Planning Act, 1920, to Vriddhachalam union and its vicinity with a view to forming a new town and controlling its development.

(By order of Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

P. L. MOORE,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the President, District Board, South Arcot (with a sketch).

„ Surgeon-General.
„ Director of Public Health.
„ Collector of South Arcot.
„ Director of Town-Planning.
„ Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
„ President, Taluk Board, Vriddhachalam } through President, District
„ President, Union Board } Board, South Arcot.
„ Finance Department.

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APPENDIX.

(1)

Letter from Major A. J. H. RUSSELL, M.A., M.D., D.P.H., I.M.S., Sanitary Commissioner, to the Secretary to Government, Local Self-Government (Public Health) Department (through the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras), dated 14th September 1921, D. No. 1972/S.

I have the honour to state that in company with the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, South Arcot, I visited Vriddhachalam and Pudupet on the 6th instant and went carefully into the question of rendering the malaria infected area healthy. Pudupet has been evacuated. The town, Pudupet in particular, is supposed to have been visited some 40 or 50 years ago by malaria. At the time some 300 deaths occurred amongst the Indians and they themselves eventually vacated the old village of Pudupet and are now living in some huts about 200 yards or more to the west of the old site. There can be no doubt that it is now badly infected and that the marsh comprised in the old Pudupet area is the focus of infection. Large numbers of larvæ were found in every pool. Action should therefore be directed first of all towards improving the marsh. I do not approve of the proposed acquisition of this area extending to as much as 50 acres. It would be, in my opinion, an unnecessary waste of money which could be put to much better use. The marshy area has a number of natural channels running to the river which are at present more or less blocked up. If these were opened up and properly levelled, much of the present stagnation would immediately disappear and the few remaining pools could easily be filled in with sand from the neighbouring river bed. The small area of wet paddy and the bit of land at present under cultivation should be abandoned at least for some time. The whole place is also covered with scrub jungle and overgrowth. This should be cleared in order to promote evaporation.

2. In Nattukkottai Chattram, south of the temple there are three wells, one on the east, one on the west and one in the garden. The western well which is not used and the garden well should be filled in. The eastern well which is in use should be covered over and provided with a pump. Within the temple itself the disused square step well at the eastern end should be filled in.

3. Whilst the unhealthy area may thus be rendered healthy, it is of importance that the inhabitants now infected with malaria should also be rid of infection. This can only be effected by regular and systematic quinization of the entire population. No doubt this will be a difficult matter in face of the local prejudice against quinine; but the effort should be made. The Assistant Surgeon stationed in the town might do a great deal in this respect.

4. I might add that the Tahsildar of Vriddhachalam informed me that he has acquired an extensive area of high ground opposite the taluk office and adjoining the travellers' bungalow without any cost to Government and suggests that quarters be built in this locality for the clerks and peons of the taluk and sub-magistrate's offices. I inspected this area which is at present under dry crops. It is well drained, and I believe water-supply from wells is feasible. The proposal is, therefore, in my opinion, a sound one, and I would commend it to the favourable consideration of Government. It is not proposed to provide these establishments with rent-free quarters. The cost

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will represent capital outlay which could be recovered in rent. The formation of a colony there might later induce other residents to move out in this direction and this would be of advantage, as the area is in all respects suitable for a town extension.

Endorsement No. 95-M/T. 355, dated 16th September 1921.

Forwarded. I have personally inspected the town and agree with the remarks of the Director of Public Health.

T. H. SYMONS, Lieut.-Col., I.M.S.,
Offg. Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.

(2)

*Report of the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards,
dated 15th October 1922.*

I have inspected the town with the President, District Board, President, Taluk Board, District Board Engineer, Tahsildar and the Local Assistant Surgeon.

2. As regards liability to malaria infection, while the Pudupet marsh might be the main breeding ground, I am by no means satisfied that the rest of the town (i.e., the portion other than Pudupet and the two rows of houses north of the temple) is practically outside the radius of infection. The present Assistant Surgeon tells me that at the present moment—i.e., since the rains began—there is not a single house in any part of the town which has not got at least one malaria patient. I find stagnant pools all over the town and between the backyards of every two rows of houses. The Barber's kuttai is for instance a typical filthy spot of this kind. Malaria is bound to go down considerably in the town if the general sanitation of the town is more efficiently attended to and these pools are filled up. I feel sceptical as to whether the draining of the marsh on the eastern side of the river or planting up the area with coconut trees—as a matter of fact a considerable portion of the area on both sides of the Ulundurpet road has, since these proposals were started, been so planted up—will have any material effect in diminishing malaria infection on the opposite side of the river. For producing the latter result, it is necessary that an intensive anti-malarial campaign should be carried on in that area, filling in pools, decimating malarial mosquitoes, etc.

3. As regards the Pudupet area, I agree entirely with the Director of Public Health. Wholesale acquisition is unnecessary. The marsh should be drained into the river by means of channels which will lead the subsoil water thereto. If such springs are of the nature of pouches as stated by the Deputy Sanitary Engineer, they should be connected by channels and led into the river. There is not much likelihood of people living in the few houses that still stand in Pudupet nor are any new buildings likely to crop up there so long as malarial infection continues. As a matter of fact, there are hardly any living in this marshy area now; most of those who were living there formerly have built or purchased houses in the town and moved in there.

4. As regards the two rows of houses north of the temple, most of the houses are practically empty and it is admitted on all hands that it is not safe to sleep even for a single night in the well-built and well-maintained

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Nattukottai choultry in the street north of the temple. It is, however, impossible to prevent this area being used. It is in the immediate vicinity of the big and popular temple and provisions for the temple have to pass through the street. People will use houses in the street at least during festival occasions. The proper policy is to make a local detailed investigation, trace the sources of infection and move the opportunities which apparently exist for the breeding of malarial mosquitoes.

5. For the purpose of carrying out these intensive anti-malarial measures, an officer has to be deputed with the necessary menial staff and equipment. His function should be not merely to make reports but to carry out works (including the draining of the marsh), submit progress reports, watch the effect on malarial infection of his own work. The town is a small one and a certificated Sanitary Inspector (having if possible a sub-overseer's qualifications in addition) will probably do for this work. He should, however, work under the guidance of a responsible officer who can be trusted to advise him on such matters. The proper officer for guiding him will of course be the District Health Officer when he comes. But in the meantime the local Assistant Surgeon—who has been a temporary I.M.S. and seen military service—will do quite well. The Sanitary Inspector should be employed for at least six months. He should have a peon and should under the orders of the Assistant Surgeon or District Health Officer employ as much labour each day as is necessary for doing the work ready for execution that day.

6. I estimate the total expenditure roughly as follows:—

	Rs.
(1) Sanitary Inspector for six months with one peon, contingencies, etc.	720
(2) Works	12,000
Total	12,720

7. As regards the financing of this amount, I think the Government might reallocate the whole of the amounts surrendered on account of—

	Rs.
(a) The improvement of the marsh area	7,500
(b) The filling up of Barber's kuttai	3,900

[N.B.—The estimate for the latter is now ready for execution.]

Total	11,400
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8. The balance should be found, I think, by the union board of Vriddha-chalam. The amount (Rs. 1,320) is small and the union board can spread the expenditure over this year and the next. If the union board cannot find the money, the taluk or district board should go to its help.

9. The President, District Board, and President, Taluk Board, agree to this suggestion of mine and, in view of the time that has already been spent on discussing what should be done, it seems to me that the sooner this staff is appointed and starts work the better.

10. As regards the proposed new town near the taluk office, a few facts have to be remembered. The whole town (old) should be held to be subject to malaria infection now. The temple is an ancient one, attracts crowds of pilgrims, and is well endowed. It is hopeless to expect the whole town or

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any portion of it which is round the temple to be thoroughly evacuated in the near future. Valuable buildings have been constructed in the other parts of the town and it would be too much to expect the owners to do anything which would make them lose these assets and put themselves to the expense of building other houses though in a healthier locality. The President, Taluk Board, rightly points out that, unless two conditions are satisfied, there is not much likelihood of their moving from their present dwellings, the two conditions being—

- (i) that sites in the new town should be given free, and
- (ii) money should be advanced for building either through the organization of a co-operative building society or otherwise.

11. The taluk office was completed in 1909 but not a single dwelling house has been constructed in the neighbourhood. It is unlikely that Government will be able to find money for constructing quarters for clerks—especially as it is doubtful if the investment will pay. The Munsif's Court is far away on the Salem road on the other side of the town and it and the temple serve to prevent migration towards the taluk office side.

12. I agree that fresh buildings should be encouraged on the taluk office side if possible and if this is to be done the following measures seem to me to be absolutely essential:—

(i) The Munsif's Court should be shifted to a place near the taluk office. The present Munsif's Court building has, I understand, been condemned, though I am told that it has been certified to be capable of lasting for a few years more and on this ground expenditure on extensions is being incurred.

(ii) Quarters for the District Munsif and Tahsildars should be constructed on the new area. This investment can be made to pay.

(iii) The present hospital which is in hopeless disrepair was condemned long ago. The new hospital should be shifted to the extension site and quarters for the assistant surgeon also built there.

(iv) The President, District Board, is on the look-out for a site for the secondary school. I would advise him to locate it and the hostel to be attached thereto on the new site for extension.

(v) I would attract builders and dwellers by assigning, free of any initial payment, sites for

- (a) a temple,
- (b) a mosque,
- (c) shops,
- (d) a club and reading room.

13. If the policy outlined above is accepted and acted on, I have no doubt that the now extinct Pudukpet will be revived in a decade but without the danger of malaria infection.

14. Negotiations are in progress for acquiring 23 acres * and odd of dry land opposite to the taluk office and by the side of the travellers' bungalow—for forming a new extension to be called Guppypet. No compensation is proposed to be paid as the Collector intends to grant to the owners land in exchange which is now at the disposal of Government. If sites have to be provided for public buildings as proposed above and if the new town is to be laid out on healthy lines, it is necessary that an additional extent of at least 30 acres is taken up contiguous to the area now being arranged for. Any

* See Tahsildar's sketch and list attached.

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amount of dry land costing not more than Rs. 300 per acre is available here and I would advise the taluk board to take as much extent as possible. The Tahsildar thinks that, if the Collector has no objection, the additional 30 acres can also be taken up by giving lands in exchange and without paying any cash compensation. But even if cash has to be paid, a town-planning scheme can be worked up so as to pay its way in the long run. The whole of the area should be laid out in a healthy way and in accordance with the wishes of intending settlers. About 15 acres should be reserved entirely for the poor who should be attracted to the site by arrangements free of any initial payment and subject only to a nominal ground-rent of Rs. 12-8-0 per acre. The rest of the area may be disposed of subject to proper ground-rent and payment of an initial premium fixed beforehand or ascertained by means of an auction.

15. If Government accept the above recommendations, the local board should be consulted, the Town-Planning Act extended to the Vriddhachalam union area and its vicinity, and if necessary, a notification under section 12 of that Act issued with a view to expedite matter. There is really however no need for hurry.

16. Between intensive anti-malarial operations in the existing town and the formation of a new town near the taluk office, I think the more urgent and important is the first. I would therefore ask the Collector to drop for the present the original proposal to acquire the whole of the marsh and suggest to the District Board to appoint the special Sanitary Inspector and staff recommended in paragraph 5 above, provided that the Government are prepared to reallocate the Rs. 11,400 they have resumed. I have told the President, District Board, and President, Taluk Board, that, even if reallocated, this grant will be paid only after the expenditure is incurred and they are prepared to submit to it. If money is not immediately available for making this grant, it will be sufficient if a promise is made that it will be paid in the beginning of next year on condition that expenditure has been incurred by them to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Health.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 170 asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 6th February 1925, page 367 supra.]

G.O. Mis. No. 1806, P.H., dated 8th December 1924.

READ—the following paper:—

Letter from the Surgeon-General, Ref. No. 1236-5-Gl., dated the 7th November 1924.

With a view to improving the present Government Women and Children Hospital at Mangalore which is sadly in need of improvements and in view of the fact that there is no likelihood of a new combined hospital for Mangalore eventuating in the near future, it has been proposed by me during my visit to Mangalore during last May that the separate Police Hospital at Mangalore be abolished, that a suitable ward be added to the Headquarter Hospital to accommodate police patients, and that the present Police Hospital which is separated from the Women and Children Hospital only by a

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compound wall be added to the Women and Children Hospital. Two alternative estimates have been received from the Superintendent of the Hospital for providing the additional accommodation required in the Headquarter Hospital for police patients :

(i) Extension of the semi-permanent ward of 20 beds (G.O. Mis. No. 1174, P.H., dated 21st August 1922) by 10 beds. Estimate Rs. 2,680.

(ii) Constructing, in addition to the above 10 beds, two cells for civil mental patients. Estimate Rs. 3,200.

It is not necessary to put up new buildings for the detention of mental patients. Such patients when they arrive can be accommodated in the ordinary wards partitioned off for the purpose. I have therefore approved of only the former estimate for Rs. 2,680 and proposed in order to save delay to have the work done departmentally from the funds at my disposal under "Petty Construction and Repairs—Mufassal Hospitals and Dispensaries". The sanction of Government to the estimate is requested as it exceeds my limit of sanction for petty departmental works. The plans and estimates are herewith forwarded.

2. *Very early orders* of Government if possible before the 1st December 1924 are requested so that the work may be completed before the end of March 1925 and arrangements be made for abolishing the separate Police Hospital from 1st April 1925.

Order—Mis. No. 1806, P.H., dated 8th December 1924.

The estimate of Rs. 2,680, for extending the semi-permanent ward in the Wenlock Hospital, Mangalore, is approved.

2. The question of transferring police patients to the main hospital and adding the present Police Hospital building to the Women and Children Hospital will be considered separately.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

V. PANDRANG RAO,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Surgeon-General.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 182 asked by Mr. G. Rameswara Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 6th February 1925, page 375 supra.]

(1)

Officers of the Police Department who were on special duty during the years ending 31st March 1924 and 31st March 1925.

Number and name of officer.	Rank.	Nature of special duty.	Approximate cost.
1. Mr. R. H. Hitchcock.	Superintendent of Police.	To write the History of the Mappilla rebellion.	Rs. 2,100
2. „ C. B. Cunningham.	Do.	On special duty for the re-allocation of police stations.	13,500
3. „ L. Withinsbaw.	Do.	On special duty at the disposal of the Government of India to supervise police arrangements in connexion with His Excellency the Viceroy's tour in 1923.	2,700

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Officers of the Police Department who were on special duty during the years ending 31st March 1924 and 31st March 1925.

Number and name of officer.	Rank.	Nature of special duty.	Approximate cost.
4. Mr. A. J. Happell ..	Superintendent of Police.	Officer Commanding, Agency Operations and on special duty to write the report on the operations.	RS. 1,073
5. „ J. S. Wilkes ..	Do.	Special duty, Agency operations.	1,063
6. „ C. E. Sweeney.	Do.	Do.	17,779
7. „ H. G. Furness.	Assistant Superintendent of Police.	Do.	16,904
8. „ W. H. Wright.	Do.	Do.	7,318
9. „ W. R. John ..	Do.	Do.	18,672
10. „ A. C. Martin ..	Do.	Do.	11,308
11. „ C. S. V. Kearns.	Do.	Do.	8,751
12. „ A. J. King ..	Do.	Do.	8,752
13. „ R. Home ..	Do.	Special duty, Agency operations and Special recruiting duty.	6,425
14. „ C. R. Charsley.	Superintendent of Police.	Special duty, Agency operations.	10,357
15. „ F. J. Chadwick.	Probationary Assistant Superintendent of Police.	Do.	7,817
16. „ F. L. Underwood.	Do.	Do.	10,195
17. „ Muhammad Ziauddin Sahib.	Deputy Superintendent of Police.	Do.	5,452
18. „ B. Mustafa Ali Khan Sahib.	Do.	Do.	2,766
19. „ G. F. M. Forbes.	Probationary Assistant Superintendent of Police.	Do.	9,260
20. „ H. Keene ..	Assistant Superintendent of Police.	Do.	282
21. „ R. Peterson ..	Do.	Do.	3,120
22. „ Saiyid Abdul Quasim Razvi Sahib.	Deputy Superintendent of Police.	Do.	1,500
23. „ P. Kanakarazu Pantulu.	Acting Deputy Superintendent of Police.	Do.	3,147
24. „ N. Ganeswara Rao.	Do.	Do.	4,240
25. „ C. Karunakaran Nayar.	Deputy Superintendent of Police.	On special duty in Madras in connexion with Mappila rebellion cases.	2,629
26. „ G. Saiyid Abdul Karim Sahib.	Temporary Deputy Superintendent of Police.	Special duty in connexion with the National Congress at Coonada in December 1923.	585
27. „ E. H. Colebrook.	Probationary Assistant Superintendent of Police.	Agency operations, special duty.	1,560
28. „ A. K. Raja Ayyar.	Special Superintendent of Police.	Kallar Reclamation duty in Madura and Ramnad districts.	22,465
29. „ K. P. Janardhana Rao.	Deputy Superintendent of Police.	Do.	2,640
30. „ P. S. Jamburamaswami Ayyar.	Acting Deputy Superintendent of Police.	Do.	2,866
31. „ M. S. Ananta Acharya.	Do.	Do.	850

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(2)

*Statement of Inspectors on special duty during the years ending
31st March 1924 and 31st March 1925.*

Serial number and name.	Special duty nature.	Approximate cost.		
		RS.	A.	P.
1. Khan Bahadur Abdul Aziz Sahib.	Agency (Fituri) ...	846	2	0
2. M. Ranga Acharya ...	Do. ...	271	0	0
3. V. Srinivasa Rao ...	Do. ...	3,518	2	0
4. P. Kanakarazu ...	Do. ...	1,742	0	0
5. P. Satyanarayana ...	Do. ...	1,036	0	0
6. B. Radhakrishna ...	Do. ...	4,946	0	0
7. C. N. Ramalingam ...	Do. ...	1,026	11	0
8. N. Ganeswara Rao ...	Do. ...	1,250	0	0
9. Rao Sahib P. Guruswami Ayyar.	Do. ...	768	0	0
10. U. K. Nityanondo Patnaik.	Do. ...	1,693	0	0
11. K. Krishnaswami ...	Do. ...	3,461	0	0
12. Upendro Patnaik ...	Do. ...	3,012	0	0
13. R. Narasinga Rao ...	Do. ...	2,275	0	0
14. I. M. Jaya Rao ...	Do. ...	1,766	3	0
15. M. S. Vaidyanatha Mudaliyar.	Sandalwood thefts ...	604	15	0
	Investigation, Coimbatore district.	910	2	0
16. Rao Sahib M. C. Tiruvenkata Acharya.	Manager, Azimnagar Settlement, South Arcot.	7,080	0	0
	(Special staff) ...	1,152	0	0
17. P. Srinivasulu Nayudu.	Kallar Reclamation, Madura.			
18. T. S. Kalyanasundaram Ayyar.	Do. ...	4,800	0	0
19. Muktanandam Nayudu.	Do. ...			
20. A. R. Clarke ...	Kamudi Special Force ...	5,760	0	0
21. E. McDonnell ...	Do. ...			
	Special staff (including Sergeant).	36,036	0	0
22. M. Tippanna Rao ...	To conduct gang cases, Kurnool.	478	5	0
23. K. Subrahmanya Ayyar.	Siddhapuram Settlement, Kurnool.	15,030	0	0
	Special staff, Kurnool ...			
24. A. K. Subbayya ...	Capture of the outlaw, Arumuga Padayachi, Trichinopoly district.	258	2	0
25. D. N. Gopala Ayyar ...	Investigation of Bomb centres, Kurnool and Cuddapah.	1,000	0	0
	Special staff, Kurnool and Cuddapah.	1,157	0	0

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amount of dry land costing not more than Rs. 300 per acre is available here and I would advise the taluk board to take as much extent as possible. The Tahsildar thinks that, if the Collector has no objection, the additional 30 acres can also be taken up by giving lands in exchange and without paying any cash compensation. But even if cash has to be paid, a town-planning scheme can be worked up so as to pay its way in the long run. The whole of the area should be laid out in a healthy way and in accordance with the wishes of intending settlers. About 15 acres should be reserved entirely for the poor who should be attracted to the site by arrangements free of any initial payment and subject only to a nominal ground-rent of Rs. 12-8-0 per acre. The rest of the area may be disposed of subject to proper ground-rent and payment of an initial premium fixed beforehand or ascertained by means of an auction.

15. If Government accept the above recommendations, the local board should be consulted, the Town-Planning Act extended to the Vriddhachalam union area and its vicinity, and if necessary, a notification under section 12 of that Act issued with a view to expedite matter. There is really however no need for hurry.

16. Between intensive anti-malarial operations in the existing town and the formation of a new town near the taluk office, I think the more urgent and important is the first. I would therefore ask the Collector to drop for the present the original proposal to acquire the whole of the marsh and suggest to the District Board to appoint the special Sanitary Inspector and staff recommended in paragraph 5 above, provided that the Government are prepared to reallocate the Rs. 11,400 they have resumed. I have told the President, District Board, and President, Taluk Board, that, even if reallocated, this grant will be paid only after the expenditure is incurred and they are prepared to submit to it. If money is not immediately available for making this grant, it will be sufficient if a promise is made that it will be paid in the beginning of next year on condition that expenditure has been incurred by them to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Health.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 170 asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 6th February 1925, page 367 supra.]

G.O. Mis. No. 1806, P.H., dated 8th December 1924.

READ—the following paper:—

Letter from the Surgeon-General, Ref. No. 1236-5-Gl., dated the 7th November 1924.

With a view to improving the present Government Women and Children Hospital at Mangalore which is sadly in need of improvements and in view of the fact that there is no likelihood of a new combined hospital for Mangalore eventuating in the near future, it has been proposed by me during my visit to Mangalore during last May that the separate Police Hospital at Mangalore be abolished, that a suitable ward be added to the Headquarter Hospital to accommodate police patients, and that the present Police Hospital which is separated from the Women and Children Hospital only by a

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that list and no steps were taken to collect the fees due. Similarly in the list of coffee hotels, restaurants, etc., about 18 items were not brought to demand, and the revenue lost to the Union Board in both the cases amounted to about Rs. 84. Steps should be taken to collect the amounts.

7. The budget estimate of the Union Board for 1924-25 was not passed by the Union Board as required by section 116 of the Local Boards Act of 1920. The budget estimate framed by the President was passed by the Taluk Board, Melur, in its resolution No. 160 of 11th January 1924 and this budget estimate is being acted upon.

8. The voters' lists for 1924-25 which should have been prepared immediately after the close of the year under section 51 of the Local Boards Act of 1920 was not prepared up to the close of the audit (20th October 1924).

9. House-tax demand for 1923-24 was settled only on 13th October 1923 and the demand notices were served only at the end of November 1923 after the expiry of the first half year, and the demand for the current year was settled on 5th October 1924 and the bills were not prepared up to the close of the audit, viz., 20th October 1924.

10. Necessary forms such as licences, applications, etc., required for enforcing the licence provisions of the Local Boards Act of 1920 for coffee clubs, eating houses, etc., were printed locally and used. The books printed have not been accounted for, nor have they been entered in the stock account of forms. The number of forms in each book was not also certified to.

11. Security has not been taken from the present Union clerk and the maistri who make collections occasionally as required by Executive instructions 7 and 8 of the Union Board Manual.

12. The stock of tools and plant and office furniture, stationery articles and forms did not appear to have been verified either by the President or any member during the period under audit and the balances were not periodically struck in the stock account of stationery articles.

13. The register of bills issued was not maintained. It was stated that this was due to the fact that the bill books were taken every day by the bill collectors and returned to office the same evening after the collections were made. No account of realizations was written in the memoranda at the beginning of the bill books and the latter did not evidence scrutiny by the President.

14. No agreement was taken from the slaughter-house contractor, the sale for which was conducted on 19th March 1924 while the agreement in respect of the contract for the supply of bulls has not been signed by the President up to the close of the audit.

15. Three cart-stands were transferred to the control of the union board by the Melur Taluk Board. The first is owned by Balaraman Chettiyar and the second by Chinnappa Rowthar and the third by one Athiappa Chettiyar. Fees were fixed at Rs. 60 and 36 for the first two while no fee has yet been fixed for the third. The sanction of the union board has not been obtained to the fees fixed. The sanction of the board should be obtained and the fees should be collected at an early date.

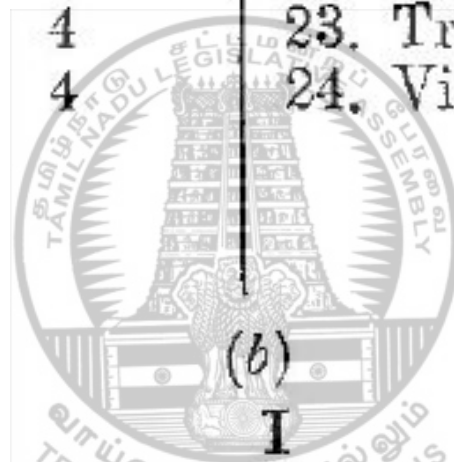
J. M. HOOPER,
Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.

[6th February 1925]

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 193 asked by Mr. G. Rameswara Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 6th February 1925, page 380 supra.]

(a)			
Number and name of district.		Number of village panchayats constituted up to 26th January 1925.	
1. Anantapur	...	80	
2. Arcot, North	...	140	
3. Arcot, South	...	34	
4. Bellary	...	11	
5. Chingleput	...	18	
6. Chittoor	...	32	
7. Coimbatore	...	26	
8. Cuddapah	...	2	
9. Ganjam	...	Nil.	
10. Godavari	...	9	
11. Guntur	...	4	
12. South Kanara	...	4	
13. Kistna		...	23
14. Kurnool		...	9
15. Madura		...	12
16. Malabar		...	1
17. Nellore		...	10
18. The Nilgiris		...	Nil.
19. Ramnad		...	15
20. Salem		...	28
21. Tanjore		...	41
22. Tinnevely		...	26
23. Trichinopoly		...	25
24. Vizagapatam		...	Nil.
Total			550



*Proceedings of the Registrar-General of Panchayats, R. Dis.
No. 310, dated 28th July 1924.*

M.R.Ry. Rai Bahadur N. GOPALASWAMI AYYANGAR AVARGAL, B.A., B.L.,
Registrar-General of Panchayats.

READ—the following papers :—

(i)

Administration Report of the Kunnam Village Panchayat for 1923-24.

The sanctioned strength of the Panchayat in the beginning of the year was 9 members and it was raised to 12 by an election held on 18th January 1924 with the permission of the Registrar-General to represent two more hamlets added to the revenue village of Kunnam as per resettlement. There were no casual elections except the election of the additional members. The election of the old nine Panchayat members took place on 7th October 1922, and the election of the additional members took place on 18th January 1924. The President of the Panchayat was elected on 25th November 1922 and there is no change after that.

2. Ten meetings were held during the year: nine ordinary and one special. The special meeting was held to consider how to collect money to meet the expenses of the Panchayat, and also to collect Rs. 1,000 to deepen and repair the Iswarankoil Sannadhi tank, Kunnam, at a cost of Rs. 2,000,—the other half of Rs. 1,000 having been promised by the Taluk Board,

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Mayavaram, to the Panchayat as contribution for the above work. Business was transacted at all meetings and no meeting was adjourned for want of quorum.

3. (1) Sanitation of the village was properly attended to by the Panchayat. No money was spent on it but it was done by voluntary co-operation of the villagers.

(2) There is only one road at present, Kunnam-Madirvelur village road by name, and the maintenance of the above was handed over to the Panchayat by the Taluk Board, Mayavaram, with a contribution of Rs. 270—the estimated amount for the above work. The Panchayat undertook that work, reconstructed a damaged culvert at a cost of Rs. 90 and spent Rs. 181-2-0 in sanding, raising the level and clearing prickly-pear. This work was done under the direct supervision of the Panchayat and it was so economically managed that a work worth about Rs. 310 was done within the above sum.

(3) No arrangement as yet has been made for lighting and the same will be attended to in the present year.

(4) The Panchayat devoted a good deal of attention for water-supply this year—specially for Adi-Dravidas and caste labourers. A special tank for the convenience of the Adi-Dravidas has been dug the year before last under the management of the then existing Kunnam Informal Panchayat. This year it was deepened, cleaned and banks raised at an expense of Rs. 59-4-10 in cash and work worth about Rs. 50 of voluntary labour, i.e., about 40 *kulis* of clay from the centre of the tank was excavated and thrown on the banks. Another tank at Perambur, a hamlet within the jurisdiction of the Panchayat used for drinking purposes by caste labourers was also deepened on a cost of Rs. 21-4-0 in cash and Rs. 30 worth of voluntary labour.

The breaches in the banks of the tank of the village were repaired at an expense of Rs. 6-12-6. The tanks of the village have all been guarded during summer and 3 kalams of paddy were spent for watching.

(5) The main irrigation channel of this village was cleared of silt at a cost of Rs. 163-13-3 and the minor channels were cleared by the labourers of the concerned mirasidars as customary. The drainage channel of this village was repaired at a cost of Rs. 75.

(6) The Panchayat celebrated the ஐயனார் கோவில் கரப்புக்கட்டும் உத்ஸவம் as was customary in this village and spent Rs. 242-4-0 and 25½ kalams of paddy.

The crops of the village were guarded by appointed watchmen at a cost of 22 kalams of paddy. The Panchayat has also spent Rs. 10 to purchase a lock and chain for the shutters of the irrigation channel. The Panchayat has deepened a portion of the dry samudayam land in the 'Mela Thopu' to make it fit for wet cultivation at a cost of Rs. 68-10-6.

Education.—The Panchayat is conducting an elementary school which is located in a house belonging to the President of the Panchayat who has lent it. One of the Panchayat members was entrusted with the management of the school who is conducting it very ably and the Panchayat appreciates his work. There is only one teacher in the school now and there are about 30 pupils. The teacher was appointed in August 1923 on a pay of Rs. 12 a month and was paid Rs. 90 for 7½ months. The school fees collected amounted to Rs. 77. The rest of the expenses of the school will be met from the grant-in-aid.

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4. (1) The income got by leasing out cattle-droppings is Rs. 4-5-0. The income from samudayam wet nanja lands, 2 acres 15 cents in extent, excluding lands given to the artisans of the village as *manyams* to work in the village, is 61½ kalams of paddy. The samudayam punjai lands and topes have been leased out for Rs. 73 per year out of which Rs. 55 have been collected before 31st March 1924 and the remainder afterwards. Rupees 74 were realised by leasing out கருவைக்காய் in the village. Rupees 65 was got by leasing out the fishing in the ponds and tanks of the village. Six cents of the samudayam land were acquired by the Taluk Board, Mayavaram, to form a road from Kunnam to Puttur, and a sum of Rs. 62-1-7 was awarded as compensation.

(2) A tax on land, 8 annas per acre, was levied in the village with the sanction of the Registrar-General of Panchayats, dated 27th April 1923, and the assessment amounted to Rs. 560-2-0, out of which Rs. 490-3-0 have been collected during the year and the rest is being collected.

(3) The Taluk Board of Mayavaram gave the Panchayat a contribution of Rs. 270 to maintain the Kunnam-Madirvelur village road.

(4) Donations.—Nil.

5. Financial summary of the Kunnam Village Panchayat for the year 1923-24 :—

Receipts—

	RS.	A.	P.
(1) <i>Common income—</i>			
Leased out income of the 'Mela tope' ...	55	0	0
Leased out income of 'கருவைக்காய்' ...	74	0	0
Fishery income ...	65	0	0
Lease of cattle-droppings ...	4	5	0
(2) <i>Taxes</i> ...	490	3	0
(3) <i>School-fees.</i> —For three months August, September and October 1923. (The rest of the school-fees is entered in the Day Book after 31st March as per Manager's account).	33	14	0
(4) <i>Contributions.</i> —Mayavaram Taluk Board ...	270	0	0
(5) <i>Other sources.</i> —Compensation for a portion of the samudayam lands acquired by the Taluk Board of Mayavaram.	62	1	7
(7) <i>Contribution in labour.</i> —In tank digging, Rs. 80.			

Total receipts (Cash) ... 1,054 7 7

Paddy.

	RS.	MS.	MS.
(1) Last year's balance ...	25	0	0
Lease of the samudayam nanjai lands ...	61	6	0
Total receipts (Paddy) ...	86	6	0

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6. Charges--

	RS.	A.	P.
(1) <i>Establishment</i> .—The charges under this head are met by the President of the Panchayat—but the registers and books of the Panchayat were bought for	7	5	0
(2) <i>Roads</i>	271	2	0
(4) <i>Water-supply</i>	87	5	4
(9) <i>Irrigation</i> —			
Silt clearing of main irrigation channel ...	163	13	5
Repairing drainage channel	75	0	0
Purchase of a lock and chain for the shutters of the irrigation channel	10	0	0
(10) <i>Other purposes</i> —			
Conversion of a portion of the dry samudayam lands to wet	68	10	6
Celebration of the 'Iyanar' festival	242	4	0
Elementary school teachers' pay for August, September and October 1923. (The rest of this pay has been entered in the Day Book as per Manager's account after 31st March 1924)	36	0	0
Customary inam for the 'செட்டாடி'	1	0	0
Deposit in Kunnam Co-operative Society	29	0	6
Cash in hand	62	15	0
Total charges (Cash) ...	1,054	7	7

Paddy.

	RS.	MS.	MS.
(1) Watching of tanks	3	0	0
(2) Celebration of 'Iyanar' festival	25	9	0
(3) Guarding of crops	22	0	0
Balance	35	9	9
Total charges (Paddy) ...	86	6	0

7. *General remarks*.—The success of the Panchayat so far is chiefly due to the enthusiasm and the co-operation of the Panchayat members.

27th June 1924. K. SUBRAHMANYAM,
President, Village Panchayat, Kunnam.

(ii)

*Endorsement No. 696, from the President, Taluk Board, Mayavaram,
dated 7th July 1924.*

With reference to your No. D. Dis. 26, dated 13th May 1924, and in continuation of this office R.C. No. 696-T.B., dated 16th June 1924, I have the honour to forward herewith the administration report of the Village Panchayat of Kunnam for 1923-24 as received from the President of the Panchayat.

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amount of dry land costing not more than Rs. 300 per acre is available here and I would advise the taluk board to take as much extent as possible. The Tahsildar thinks that, if the Collector has no objection, the additional 30 acres can also be taken up by giving lands in exchange and without paying any cash compensation. But even if cash has to be paid, a town-planning scheme can be worked up so as to pay its way in the long run. The whole of the area should be laid out in a healthy way and in accordance with the wishes of intending settlers. About 15 acres should be reserved entirely for the poor who should be attracted to the site by arrangements free of any initial payment and subject only to a nominal ground-rent of Rs. 12-8-0 per acre. The rest of the area may be disposed of subject to proper ground-rent and payment of an initial premium fixed beforehand or ascertained by means of an auction.

15. If Government accept the above recommendations, the local board should be consulted, the Town-Planning Act extended to the Vriddhachalam union area and its vicinity, and if necessary, a notification under section 12 of that Act issued with a view to expedite matter. There is really however no need for hurry.

16. Between intensive anti-malarial operations in the existing town and the formation of a new town near the taluk office, I think the more urgent and important is the first. I would therefore ask the Collector to drop for the present the original proposal to acquire the whole of the marsh and suggest to the District Board to appoint the special Sanitary Inspector and staff recommended in paragraph 5 above, provided that the Government are prepared to reallocate the Rs. 11,400 they have resumed. I have told the President, District Board, and President, Taluk Board, that, even if reallocated, this grant will be paid only after the expenditure is incurred and they are prepared to submit to it. If money is not immediately available for making this grant, it will be sufficient if a promise is made that it will be paid in the beginning of next year on condition that expenditure has been incurred by them to the satisfaction of the Director of Public Health.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 170 asked by Mr. J. A. Saldanha at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 6th February 1925, page 367 supra.]

G.O. Mis. No. 1806, P.H., dated 8th December 1924.

READ—the following paper:—

Letter from the Surgeon-General, Ref. No. 1236-5-Gl., dated the 7th November 1924.

With a view to improving the present Government Women and Children Hospital at Mangalore which is sadly in need of improvements and in view of the fact that there is no likelihood of a new combined hospital for Mangalore eventuating in the near future, it has been proposed by me during my visit to Mangalore during last May that the separate Police Hospital at Mangalore be abolished, that a suitable ward be added to the Headquarter Hospital to accommodate police patients, and that the present Police Hospital which is separated from the Women and Children Hospital only by a

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II

*Proceedings of the Registrar-General of Panchayats,
R. Dis. No. 323, dated 5th August 1924.*

M.R.Ry. Rai Bahadur N. GOPALASWAMI AYYANGAR Avargal, B.A., B.L.,
Registrar-General of Panchayats.

READ—the following papers :—

Report from the President, Village Panchayat, Narayanavanam,
R.C. No. 29/Gl., dated 14th June 1924.

Endorsement thereon by the President, Taluk Board, Chendragiri,
R.O.C. No. 230/Supra/24, dated 20th June 1924.

Order—R. Dis. No. 323, dated 5th August 1924.

Nine ordinary meetings of the panchayat were held during the year under review as against twelve in the previous year. Two special meetings were also held to transact important business. No meeting was adjourned for want of a quorum. This is satisfactory.

2. Sanitation was well attended to by the panchayat, as testified to by the Collector, District Health Officer and the Tahsildar. Steps were taken to remove prickly-pear and to stop drainage water from running into public streets. The local fresh water tank was cleansed by the removal of silt. The expenditure incurred by the panchayat under sanitation should have been separately given and should not have been lumped with office establishment. During the Brahmotsavam of the temple special sanitary arrangements were made and the streets kept clean towards the expenses of which the taluk board contributed a sum of Rs. 50.

3. The lighting arrangements were good and the panchayat continued to maintain the 38 street lamps in the village at a cost of Rs. 196-0-3.

4. The panchayat spent Rs. 86 for the repair of some of the roads in the village. Some other streets in the village are also reported to be in need of urgent repair specially the main car street which is cut up every year during the Brahmotsavam car festival. The panchayat has already addressed the taluk board for financial help for this purpose and it is hoped that the help asked for will be given before the next festival at least, so that the street could be put into an efficient condition by then.

5. The panchayat took special care to ensure a sufficient supply of drinking-water during the festival. The river watchman employed by the taluk board worked under the control of the panchayat. Water pandals were also erected at important places during the festival. As pointed out by the District Health Officer the panchayat should see that the village is provided with two protected wells on modern sanitary principles. The attention of the panchayat is invited to circular No. 980-1, dated 21st March 1924, and it is requested to report whether it is prepared to apply for a well of the sort described therein.

6. The panchayat has ventured on starting an Ayurvedic dispensary. This institution is for the present entirely dependent upon the taluk board for its maintenance and during the period of the four months that have elapsed since its establishment it has attained considerable popularity. Nine hundred and eighty-seven patients have been treated on the average per month.

7. The year opened with a balance of Rs. 107-5-0, the income of the panchayat during the year was Rs. 1,028-2-4. Its expenditure during the

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year was Rupees 1,090-7-11 and the year closed with a balance of Rs. 44-15-5. The tax on houses levied by the old informal panchayat continued to be levied by the present panchayat. The panchayat also derived income from other minor sources including market fees, the levy of which is still the subject of correspondence between the panchayat and the taluk board.

8. The total current and arrear demand under all items of revenue amounted to Rs. 1,194-5-0, of which Rs. 1,028-2-4 was collected during the year. There was an uncollected balance of Rs. 166-2-8, the whole of which was under house-tax, and dates back to 1920-21. The panchayat should take steps to write off such of the items as are irrecoverable.

9. The panchayat and its President, M.R.Ry. P. Narasimmiah Garu are congratulated on the excellent record of useful work done during the year under review.

N. GOPALASWAMI,
Registrar-General of Panchayats.

To all Presidents of Village Panchayats in the Telugu districts.
" Presidents of Taluk Boards.
" Honorary Organizers of Panchayats.

APPENDIX.

*Financial summary of the Narayanavanam Village Panchayat
for the year 1923-24.*

Receipts.			Charges.		
	RS.	A. P.		RS.	A. P.
Chitta balance on 31st March 1923.	107	5 0	1. Office establishment	445	4 4
1. Taxes—			2. Roads	86	0 0
Arrear collections of house-taxes—			3. Lighting	196	0 3
For 1919-20	0	6 0	4. Water-supply	..	..
For 1920-21	7	0 8	5. Medical relief—		
For 1921-22	30	10 0	Ayurvedic dispensary	100	0 0
For 1922-23	253	7 4	6. Sanitation—		
Current collection for 1923-24.	561	4 0	(1) Cleaning of streets	Included in item 1.	
			(2) Removal of prickly-pear. }		
			7. Special arrangements for sanitation at fairs and festivals.	9	8 0
2. Fees—			8. Other purposes—		
Market fees for 1923-24	10	4 6	(1) Contingent and printing. ..	145	11 4
3. Contribution from—			(2) Stationery	5	0 0
Taluk Board, excluding money order commission.	49	8 0	(3) Salary of river watchman received from taluk board and paid to individual.	99	0 0
4. Other receipts (Miscellaneous)—			(4) Miscellaneous	3	0 0
(1) Sale of empty tins	3	1 0	Total	1,090	7 11
(2) Penalty on taxes collected.	1	15 10	Chitta balance on 31st March 1924.	44	15 5
(3) Court costs recovered in S.C. No. 498/1923 of District Munsif's Court, Tirupati.	8	6 0			
(4) Recovered costs of chimneys, screws, glasses, etc., from staff of the Panchayat office.	2	14 0			
(5) Fishery rent	0	5 0			
5. Salary of river watchman paid by the Taluk Board, Chendragiri.	99	0 0			
Total	1,135	7 4			

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III

NOTIFICATION.

Fort St. George, February 28, 1922.

In exercise of the powers vested in them by and under the provisions of section 44 of the Madras Village Panchayat Act, 1920, the Local Government are pleased to make the following rules :—

Rules under the Madras Village Panchayat Act, 1920.

1. In these rules "Registrar" means the person appointed by the Local Government as Registrar for the whole of the area to which the Madras Village Panchayat Act, 1920, extends.

2. The order under section 3 (7) declaring an area to be a village, the notification under section 4 (1) (a) directing the constitution of a panchayat for any village and the notification under section 4 (1) (b) cancelling or modifying such notification shall be published in the district gazette and by beat of drum in the village. The village headman shall publish the notification by beat of drum in the village and shall certify the fact of his having done so to the Registrar and to such person as he may specify. The notification shall take effect from the date of publication in the district gazette or the date of publication by beat of drum in the village, whichever is earlier.

3. Whenever a vacancy occurs among panchayatdars, the president of the panchayat shall report the fact within fifteen days of the occurrence to the Registrar or to such person as he may specify in this behalf.

4. When panchayatdars have to be elected for the first time or when a vacancy occurs among panchayatdars, the Registrar or the person specified by him shall fix the date for the election of a panchayatdar or panchayatdars as the case may be and at least seven clear days before the said date publish a notice calling on the residents of the village who are entitled to vote under section 6 (1) to assemble at the particular time and place specified in the notice.

5. The notice shall be published—

(a) by affixing a copy thereof—

(i) in the office of the village panchayat and village chavadi, if any, and

(ii) in not less than three conspicuous places in the village, and

(b) by beat of drum in the village.

The notice shall be republished by beat of drum in the village on the date of election at least two hours before the time fixed for the election.

6. The Registrar or the person specified by him or any other person whom such person may depute shall preside at the meeting of the voters and conduct the election.

7. The person who is to conduct the election, who shall in these rules be termed 'presiding officer,' shall proceed to the place specified in the notice, and admit into such place only such persons as are entitled to vote under section 6 (1). He shall then and there hear and decide any objection to the admission or exclusion of a person and his decision shall be final.

8. Every candidate shall be proposed by one voter and seconded by another. The presiding officer shall note down the names so proposed and seconded. •

[6th February 1925]

9. The presiding officer shall *suo motu*, or on objection taken by any of the voters present, reject the name of any candidate whom he considers to be not qualified under section 7 and his decision shall be final.

10. The presiding officer shall then read out the names of the candidates whom he considers to be qualified.

11. If the number of qualified candidates is equal to or less than the number of panchayatdars to be elected, the presiding officer shall declare *all* the qualified candidates to have been duly elected and take steps at the same or a subsequent meeting for the election of the panchayatdars remaining to be elected if any.

12. If the number of such candidates is in excess of the number of panchayatdars to be elected, then the presiding officer shall ascertain, by show of hands or otherwise, the number of voters present who are in favour of each qualified candidate and shall declare the candidate or candidates for whom most votes have been given to have been duly elected.

13. When an equality of votes is found to exist between any candidates and the addition of one vote will entitle any of the candidates to be declared elected, the determination of the person or persons to whom such one additional vote shall be deemed to have been given shall be made by lot to be drawn in the presence of the presiding officer and in such manner as he may determine.

14. The names of the candidate or candidates declared to have been duly elected shall be immediately published in the form of a notice over the signature of the presiding officer at the office of the panchayat and at the village chavadi, if any.

15. The presiding officer shall report the result of the election to the Registrar or to such person as he may specify; and the Registrar or such other person shall notify the names of the successful candidates in the district gazette.

16. Every contract made by a panchayat the value or amount of which exceeds Rs. 50 shall be in writing and shall be signed by the President and at least one other panchayatdar.

17. No immovable property vested in or belonging to a panchayat shall be transferred by sale, gift, mortgage or exchange or by lease for a period exceeding three years or otherwise, except with the sanction of the Registrar.

18. When a panchayat proposes to make a by-law or alter or cancel an existing by-law a draft of such proposal shall be affixed in the office of the panchayat and village chavadi if any, and a notice shall be published by beat of drum in the village stating that the draft is available for inspection at the office of the panchayat and village chavadi, if any, and specifying a date, not earlier than 15 days from the date of such publication, on which the panchayat will take the proposal into consideration.

19. On such date or any later date to which the meeting may be adjourned the panchayat shall consider any objection or suggestion made orally or in writing by any person interested and shall finally decide whether and in what form the by-law should be made, cancelled or altered, as the case may be.

20. No by-law or cancellation or alteration of a by-law shall have effect until the same shall have been approved and confirmed by the Registrar.

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21. When a panchayat proposes to levy a tax or fee it shall publish the proposal by beat of drum in the village and by a notice affixed in the office of the village panchayat and the village chavadi, if any, specifying a date, not earlier than 15 days from the date of such publication, on which the panchayat will take the proposal into consideration.

22. On such date or any later date to which the meeting may be adjourned the panchayat shall consider any objection or suggestion made orally or in writing by any person interested and shall finally reject the proposal or sanction the proposal as originally made or in an amended form, provided that if the panchayat considers that the rates of taxes or fees originally proposed should be enhanced, fresh notice shall be given before the enhancement is finally decided on.

23. Every proposal to levy a tax or fee and every resolution confirming the levy of a tax or fee shall be submitted to the Registrar and to such person as he may specify.

24. The notification under section 28 shall be published in the district gazette and by beat of drum in the village.

25. The panchayat shall prepare and maintain an assessment book containing a list of all persons liable to pay any tax or fee.

26. As soon as the list of assessments to any tax is completed a notice shall be published by beat of drum in the village that the list is open for inspection at the office of the panchayat or in the village chavadi, if any.

27. Every application under section 30 for revision of assessment shall be made within 30 clear days of the date of publication of the notice under rule 26.

28. Taxes and fees shall be paid in cash to the president of the panchayat or if the panchayat so decides to the village headman within 30 days of the date of publication of the notice under rule 26 or in cases where an application for revision has been presented, of the date on which the panchayat passes orders under section 30.

29. Where the panchayat decides to entrust the collection of taxes and fees to the village headman, he shall be paid a minimum remuneration of one anna in the rupee on the amount collected.

30. A receipt duly signed by the president or the village headman, as the case may be, shall be furnished to every person making any payment of money to a panchayat.

31. When a vacancy occurs in the office of president, any member of the panchayat may report the fact to the Registrar or the person specified by him.

32. When the president of a panchayat has to be elected for the first time or when the president's place becomes vacant, the Registrar or the person specified by him shall fix a date for the election of president and give notice thereof to each panchayatdar at least three clear days before the said date.

33. Every candidate for the office of president shall be proposed by one panchayatdar and seconded by another. The names of all the candidates proposed and seconded shall be read out by the presiding panchayatdar.

34. If there is only one duly nominated candidate, he shall be deemed to have been elected.

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35. If there are two or more candidates, the presiding panchayatdar shall ascertain, by show of hands or otherwise, the number of panchayatdars present who are in favour of each candidate.

36. No panchayatdar may vote for more than one candidate.

37. The presiding panchayatdar shall declare the candidate for whom the largest number of votes have been given to have been duly elected. If two or more candidates get the largest number of votes, the presiding panchayatdar shall cast lots for ascertaining which of them shall be declared to have been duly elected.

38. The presiding panchayatdar shall publish the name of the successful candidate in the form of a notice in the office of the panchayat and shall also report such name to the Registrar or the person specified by him. The Registrar or the person specified by him shall notify such name in the district gazette.

39. The president shall carry into effect every resolution of a panchayat unless such resolution is modified, suspended or cancelled by a competent authority.

40. The president may grant leave not exceeding the limits which may be fixed by the panchayat to all officers and servants of the panchayat.

41. Every licence or permission granted and every bill, notice or other document served or sent on behalf of or under the authority of the panchayat shall be signed by the president or a panchayatdar duly authorized by him in this behalf.

42. The president or any person authorized by him in this behalf may enter into or on any building or land with or without assistants or workmen in order to make any inquiry, inspection, test, examination, survey, measurement or valuation, or to execute any other work which is authorized by the provisions of the Act or of any rule, by-law, or order made under it, or which it is necessary for any of the purposes of the Act or in pursuance of any of the said provisions to make or execute :

Provided that—

- (a) no such entry shall be made between sunset and sunrise ;
- (b) no dwelling house, and no part of a public building used as a dwelling place shall be so entered without the consent of the occupier thereof, unless the said occupier has received at least six hours' previous notice of the intention to make such entry ;
- (c) sufficient notice shall be given in every case to enable the inmates of any apartment appropriated to women to remove to some part of the premises where their privacy may be preserved ;
- (d) due regard shall be paid, so far as may be compatible with the exigencies of the purpose of the entry, to the social and religious usages of the occupants of the premises.

43. The president may summon any person to attend before him and to give evidence and produce documents as the case may be in respect of any question relating to taxation or to the grant of any licence or permission under the Act.

44. Meetings of a panchayat shall be held at the office of the panchayat or at such other place as the president may from time to time determine, and may be either ordinary or special.

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45. Ordinary meetings shall be held at least once in every month on such days and at such times as the panchayat may determine and also at other times as often as a meeting shall be called by the president.

46. The president may, and on the requisition in writing of not less than three panchayatdars shall convene a special meeting of the panchayat. If the president fails to call a special meeting within 15 days of such requisition the members who signed the requisition may themselves call the meeting and issue the notice required by rule 47.

47. Except in cases of urgency no meeting shall be held unless notice of the day and time when the meeting is to be held and of the business to be transacted thereat has been given at least three clear days before the meeting.

48. The following subjects shall be dealt with only at special meetings:—

- (a) Election of president.
- (b) Levy of taxes and of fees of a general nature.
- (c) Transfers of immovable property.
- (d) Annual administration report.

49. Every meeting of a panchayat shall be presided over by the president; in his absence by the panchayatdar, if any, to whom his power in this respect has been delegated under section 9; in the absence of both by a panchayatdar chosen by the meeting to preside for the occasion.

50. All the meetings of a panchayat shall be open to the public, provided that the president or the presiding panchayatdar may, in any case, direct that the public generally or any particular person shall withdraw.

51. Subject to the provisions of section 27 all questions which may come before a panchayat at any meeting shall be decided by a majority of the votes of the members present and voting at the meeting and, in case of equality of votes, the president or the presiding panchayatdar shall have a second or casting vote.

52. The quorum for an ordinary meeting shall be one-third, and that for a special meeting one-half of the sanctioned number of panchayatdars.

53. If within half an hour after the time appointed for a meeting a quorum is not present the meeting shall be adjourned, unless the panchayatdars present agree to wait longer.

54. A special meeting shall transact only the business for which it was called.

55. No resolution of a panchayat shall be modified or cancelled within three months after the passing thereof, except at a special meeting and by a resolution of the panchayat supported by the votes of not less than one-half of the sanctioned number of panchayatdars.

56. Minutes of the proceedings at each meeting of a panchayat shall be entered in a book to be kept for that purpose and shall be signed by the president or presiding panchayatdar and such book shall, at all reasonable times and without charge, be open to the inspection of any person who pays any tax or fee.

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57. Within three days of the date of a meeting a copy of the minutes of the proceedings at such meeting shall be forwarded to the Registrar or any person specified by him.

58. The president of a panchayat shall have the custody of the proceedings and records of the panchayat and may grant copies of any such proceedings and records on payment of such fees as the panchayat may determine. Copies shall be certified by the president as provided in section 76 of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872.

59. The president shall keep a day book and enter in it all receipts and expenditure from day to day striking a balance each day in which there is transaction.

60. The day book, assessment book and receipt book shall be in such form as the Registrar may require.

61. The panchayat fund shall be deposited in the nearest Post Office Savings Bank or may, with the approval of the Registrar, be lodged in any bank or entrusted to a co-operative society or left in the custody of the president or any other respectable person.

62. All orders or cheques against the panchayat fund shall be signed by the president or by a panchayatdar to whom the president has, under section 9, delegated this power and the bank, co-operative society or person as the case may be having the custody of the panchayat fund under rule 61 shall, so far as the funds to the credit of the panchayat admit, pay all orders or cheques against the fund which are so signed.

63. All payments from the panchayat fund shall be supported by proper vouchers.

64. At every monthly meeting of the panchayat the day book with the receipt books and the vouchers in support of all payments made since the last monthly meeting, the pass book of the Post Office Savings Bank or similar record showing the balance to the credit of the panchayat with its banker and the cash in the hands of the president shall be placed before the panchayat. An abstract of the receipts and payments passed by the panchayat shall be entered in the minutes of the meeting.

65. The Registrar shall appoint an auditor of the accounts of the receipts and expenditure of the panchayat fund.

66. The president shall prepare annually a report on the working of the panchayat for the preceding financial year and submit it with resolution of the panchayat thereon to the Registrar. The report shall be submitted not later than 1st June and through such officer or person as the Registrar may specify.

67. When any difference or dispute exists between any two panchayats in regard to any matters arising for decision under the Act, such difference or dispute may, and on the application of any one of the panchayats concerned shall, be taken cognizance of by the Registrar and his decision thereon shall be final.

F. J. RICHARDS,
Secretary to Government.

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IV

G.O. No. 941, L. & M., dated 20th April 1923.

READ—the following paper :—

G.O. No. 657, L. & M., dated 16th March 1923.

Order—No 941, L. & M., dated 20th April 1923.

The following notification will be published in the *Port St. George Gazette* :—

NOTIFICATION.

In exercise of the powers vested in them by and under the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 31 and clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 44 of the Madras Village Panchayat Act, 1920, the Local Government are pleased to make the following rules to regulate the manner in which arrears of taxes and fees shall be recovered by the village headman by the distraint and sale of the movable property of the person defaulting in the payment of taxes or fees to a village panchayat :—

Rules.

1. These rules may be called the Village Panchayat Collection Rules.
2. Where the work of collection is entrusted to the village headman, the president of the panchayat shall furnish such headman with a list of assesses in Form I attached to these rules. In cases where applications for revision of assessment are presented, the president shall communicate to the village headman the orders of the panchayat thereon as soon as they are passed.
3. Where the help of the village headman is sought for the purpose of recovering taxes and fees from defaulters only, the president of the panchayat shall furnish him with a list of defaulters in Form I attached to these rules.
4. The lists in Form I shall be the village headman's authority for making the distress.
5. If the whole or any portion of the tax or fee is not paid within thirty days of the date of service or publication of the notice of assessment or of the date on which orders are passed by the panchayat on a revision petition, as the case may be, the amount of the tax or its unpaid portion shall be deemed to be an arrear and may at any time thereafter be recovered by distraint and sale of the defaulter's movable property.
6. On the day on which the village headman proceeds to make the distraint, he shall show the defaulter a demand in writing signed by himself, specifying the name of the defaulter, the amount of arrear for which distraint may be made and the date on which the arrear fell due. If the arrear together with the penalty prescribed in section 31 (1) of the Act is not at once paid, the village headman shall deliver a copy of the written demand to the defaulter endorsing thereon a list of the property distrained and the name of the place where he will lodge or keep it. Within twenty-four hours of the distraint the village headman shall submit a copy of the list to the president of the village panchayat.
7. The endorsement shall further set forth that the distrained property will be sold in auction unless the arrear with the penalty and all the expenses of distress is discharged within seven days of the distraint.

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8. When a defaulter is absent a copy of the endorsement thereon shall be affixed to, or left at, his usual place of residence or on the premises where property may have been distrained.

9. If the arrear together with the penalty and all the expenses of distress is not paid within seven days of the date of distraint, the village headman shall fix a date for the sale of the property distrained and, at least three clear days before such date, publish a proclamation of such sale in Form II attached to these rules. The proclamation shall be published at the office of the village panchayat, at the village chavadi and by beat of drum in the village.

10. Where a defaulter tenders payment of the amount demanded after his property has been distrained and prior to the date fixed for sale, together with all the necessary expenses of distress, the village headman shall receive the amount and shall forthwith release the property.

11. The village headman shall not work any bullocks or cattle or make use of any goods or effects distrained; he shall provide the necessary food for the cattle or livestock and the expense incurred in doing so shall be deemed to be included in the costs of distraint and recovered from the defaulter.

12. Where property distrained is stolen, lost or damaged by reason of the necessary precautions for its due preservation not having been taken, or from its having been improperly worked or made use of, the amount of such loss or damage shall be recoverable from the village headman. Such recovery shall be made to the extent possible from the commission if any due to him for the collection of the taxes and fees due to the panchayat.

13. The value of the property distrained shall be as nearly as possible equal to the amount of the arrears and the penalty due.

14. Distress shall be made after sunrise and before sunset and not otherwise.

15. It shall be lawful for the village headman to force open any stable, cow-house, granary, godown, out-house or other building and he may also enter any dwelling house the outer door of which may be open and may break open the door of any room in such dwelling house for the purpose of attaching property belonging to a defaulter and lodged therein; provided always that it shall not be lawful for such village headman to break open or enter any apartment in such dwelling house appropriated to the zenana or residence of women except as provided for by rule 16 below.

16. Where the village headman has reason to suppose that the property of a defaulter is lodged within a dwelling house, the outer door of which may be shut or within any apartments appropriated to women which are considered private by the usage of the country, such village headman shall report the fact to the president of the panchayat. The president shall either proceed to the spot himself or request a panchayatdar to do so. In the presence of the president or such panchayatdar the village headman may force open the outer door of such dwelling house in like manner as he may break open the door of any room except the zenana. The village headman may also, in the presence of the president or such panchayatdar, after due notice given for the removal of women within a zenana and after furnishing means for their removal in a suitable manner (if they be gosha), enter the zenana apartments for the purpose of distraining the defaulter's property deposited therein, but such property if found shall be immediately removed from such apartments after which they shall be left free to the former occupants.

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17. Before proclamation of the intended sale is made under rule 9 the village headman shall cause to be affixed, to the outer door of the defaulter's house or on the premises where property may have been distrained, a list of the property to be sold, with a notice specifying the place where and the day and hour at which the distrained property will be sold. No sale shall take place until after the expiration of a period of three days from the date on which the notice was so affixed :

Provided that when the property distrained is subject to speedy and natural decay the village headman may sell it at any time after such property was distrained unless the amount due is sooner paid.

18. The village headman shall consider any objections to the distraint of any property received by him within one week after the date of distraint and may postpone the sale pending investigation thereof. If he is satisfied that the property attached is not liable to distraint, he shall return it, to the person appearing to be entitled thereto and may again proceed under rule 6.

19. At the appointed time of sale, the property shall be put up in one or more lots as the village headman may consider advisable and shall be disposed of to the highest bidder. Where the property sells for more than the amount of the arrear and penalty, the surplus, after deducting the expenses of distress and sale, shall be paid to the defaulter.

20. The property shall be paid for in ready money at the time of the sale or as soon after, not being more than one week, as the village headman may appoint, and the purchaser shall not be permitted to carry away any part of the property until he has paid for the same in full. Where the purchaser fails to pay the purchase money within the time allowed, the property shall be resold and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable for any loss arising, as well as the expenses incurred, on the resale. Where the property, on the second sale, sells for a higher price than at the first sale, the difference or the increase shall be the property of the person on whose account the said first sale was made.

21. The village headman shall not directly or indirectly purchase any property at any such sale.

22. All arrears and penalties recovered by the village headman under these rules shall within three days of such recovery be paid to the president of the panchayat or to such other person as the panchayat may appoint.

FORM No. I.

List of assesseses or defaulters.

Serial number.	Name of assessee or defaulter.	Tax or fee assessed.	Amount of tax or fee or arrear of tax or fee.	Date by which the tax or fee is payable or on which the arrears fell due.

[6th February 1925]

FORM No. II.

It is hereby notified that the undermentioned property of a defaulter in the village of of taluk has been distrained in satisfaction of arrears of taxes, fees, etc., due by him to the village panchayat and that unless those arrears with penalty and other charges shall be previously paid, the said property will be sold by public auction near the house of at the said village on day the th 192 , or other day to which the sale may be adjourned. The sale will commence at 11 a.m. and the property will be knocked down to the highest bidder without reserve for ready cash. The purchaser will not be permitted to carry away any part of the property until he has paid for the same in full.

If the purchaser fails to pay the purchase money within the time allowed, the property will be resold and the defaulting purchaser will be liable for any loss arising, as well as for the expenses incurred on the resale.

Station.

Village headman.

Date.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

P. L. MOORE,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Superintendent, Government Press (for publication in Gazette).
 „ Revenue Department.
 „ Law (Legislative) Department.
 „ Registrar-General of Panchayats.

NOTIFICATION.

Fort St. George, August 11, 1923 (G.O. No. 1347, P.H.).

Under section 15 of the Madras Village Panchayat Act, 1920, the Government are pleased to make the following rule:—

Rule.

Every president of a village panchayat shall place the monthly returns of births and deaths sent by the village headman before the panchayat at its next meeting. The panchayat shall pass them on to the Tahsildar with a certificate whether the returns are correct and, if incorrect, what alterations are necessary therein.

P. L. MOORE,
Acting Secretary to Government.

VI

NOTIFICATION.

Fort St. George, April 9, 1924 (G.O. No. 928, L. & M.).

In G.O. No. 403, L. & M., dated 15th February 1924, a draft of the rules which the Government proposed to issue under sub-section (1) of section 44

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and clause (viii) of section 15 of the Madras Village Panchayat Act, 1920, for the control of certain communal porambokes, was published for information and criticism. The Government have now considered the objections received and see no need to make any alteration in the rules.

2. The rules will now be confirmed and the appended notification will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* in English and in all the District Gazettes in English and in the vernacular.

APPENDIX.

Notification.

In exercise of the powers vested in them by sub-section (1) of section 44 and clause (viii) of section 15 of the Madras Village Panchayat Act, 1920, the Local Government are pleased to make the following rules for the control of certain communal porambokes by village panchayats :—

Rules

Rule 1.—When a panchayat desires to assume control of any communal poramboke within its jurisdiction it shall pass a resolution to that effect. The resolution shall embody—

- (a) the survey number or numbers, the boundaries and extent of the poramboke ;
- (b) the purpose for which the poramboke is used ; and
- (c) a list and description of the trees standing on the poramboke.

Rule 2.—A copy of the resolution shall be forwarded to the Revenue Divisional Officer who after verification shall transmit it with his remarks to the District Collector. The District Collector may, if he approves the transfer, notify his approval of the resolution in the District Gazette specifying the date from which the transfer is to be effected. The panchayat shall maintain a list of porambokes so notified. The District Collector may, by notification in the District Gazette, after giving the panchayat an opportunity to show cause to the contrary, withdraw, from the control of the panchayat, any poramboke which has been transferred to panchayat management.

Rule 3.—The panchayat shall, except in cases where the District Collector directs otherwise, be entitled to the usufruct of trees other than patta trees standing on such porambokes as also to the sale-proceeds of windfalls and withered trees on such porambokes, on condition that it is willing to guarantee to the Government the average lease value of trees standing on the porambokes transferred and under lease during the five previous years.

Rule 4.—So long as a panchayat exercises control over the trees on any communal poramboke, on fruit-bearing tree on such poramboke which has not already been granted on patta shall be granted on patta without the consent of the panchayat.

P. L. MOORE,
Acting Secretary to Government.

[6th February 1925]

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to question No. 195 asked by Mr. M. Ratnaswami at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 6th February 1925, page 382 supra.]

(1)

G.O. No. 107 L., dated 24th January 1918.

The importance of planting trees by the side of roads where there are now none and of improving existing avenues has on several occasions in recent years been impressed on presidents of district boards but though considerable attention is paid to the matter in some districts, the information contained in the various administration reports indicates that less interest is taken in tree planting in others, and that the best results are not always obtained for the money spent. The planting and maintenance of avenues are generally entrusted to the Local Fund Engineering establishment; and where the Engineer or members of the superior staff study the requirements of the roads and take trouble to ascertain the most suitable kinds of trees the arrangement no doubt works well. It is feared however that overseers often find it difficult to pay much real attention to avenues or have insufficient knowledge of the subject; that money is wasted through an undue dissipation of effort or through want of continuity of policy; and that trees of no permanent value are often planted for the sake of immediate effect. On the other hand credit is taken in some places for the planting of trees likely to bring in revenue without regard to their value for purposes of shade which is of course the most important function of an avenue tree.

2. It is understood that programmes of tree-planting extending over a period of years have been drawn up in most districts. The period covered, however, is generally comparatively short and the operations are scattered all over the districts; and it has been suggested to Government that better results might be obtained in some districts, at all events, on a system adopted recently in North Arcot. It was there resolved to make out a programme covering a period of 50 years and to concentrate operations in a small area at one time so that a small but full-time staff might be employed to attend solely to the planting and tending of trees until a sufficient number in that area were of a size to need no farther attention. The suggestion is commended to the presidents of district boards for consideration. If it is adopted, it would be desirable to place in charge of the operations a man with some practical knowledge of tree-planting rather than one trained to clerical duties, and it would be worth while to offer adequate pay to a man with the requisite knowledge, though without general educational qualifications. It is possible that such a man might receive practical instruction from the district forest officials; as an alternative it is understood that if a few district boards are prepared to contribute the cost, arrangements might perhaps be made for a course of training at the agri-horticultural society's gardens at Madras.

3. More use might perhaps be made of village agency in planting trees in the immediate neighbourhood of villages outside the circle of the intensive operations suggested in the preceding paragraph. Though the villagers or village heads may shrink from undertaking the maintenance of any great lengths of avenues, it should be possible to arrange with them in some cases for the planting and care of trees in the immediate neighbourhood of their

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villages and some of the money now spent on coolies over whom there is little supervision might profitably be diverted to subsidies to village agencies, payment being made to some extent on results.

4. A pamphlet prepared by M.R.Ry. Rai Bahadur K. Krishnan Nayar, District Board Engineer, Malabar, which contains useful hints on details is printed as an appendix to this order.

(True extract)

R. A. GRAHAM,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To all presidents of district boards.
„ the Revenue Department.

APPENDIX

Avenue planting.

The accompanying summary of instructions issued on avenue planting in the South Kanara district is circulated to all subdivisional and section officers in this district for information and guidance.

2. All expenditure on avenue planting or maintenance should, from this year, be incurred only in such a manner as to be chargeable either to nursery or to a specified batch of plants. Registers should be maintained in the section office subdivision office and the head office showing the charges incurred for each from year to year. When plants are ready to be removed from the nursery, their cost should be calculated and credited to the nursery and charged to the batch. Each batch should be not less than 50 plants nor further apart than one mile and should be consecutively marked A, B, C, etc., for each section. All the banyan and portia planting on one road may, however, receive one distinguishing letter, provided such planting has been done on an extensive scale. At any stage, it should be possible at a glance to see what each batch has cost up to date. A description of the plants and their condition should be noted at the end of each year against the batch and it should be quite easy on the ground to see the result and judge it in view of the cost incurred.

3. Any expenditure incurred on account of old trees either for digging around them removing parasites or other purposes may be shown as miscellaneous expenditure on maintenance, provided it is incurred in accordance with details furnished in the sanctioned estimates.

4. For planting in distant gaps, no avenue coolie can be sanctioned and whatever is possible must be got done by the road coolies.

5. The rain tree grows so fast that, properly looked after, it gets out of danger in two to three months. Here two to three years appear to be taken. It has been seen to grow 1' 1½" in a week. It requires substantial props properly strutted up. When it has grown 12 to 14 feet high it should be cut off at 10 feet height. Till it grows to this height, no branches should be allowed. The branches also require similar pruning to be able to bear the weight of the luxuriant growth.

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6. Cuttings for banyan and portia should be 4 to 6 feet in girth. Pits should be dug and filled for these cuttings. The filling should be sufficiently higher than the ground to allow for settling.

7. Jack, mango, tamarind, margosa, punna and ganuga are among the fruit trees that may be largely planted.

COCANADA,
2nd January 1917.

K. KRISHNAN NAYAR,
District Board Engineer.

[Enclosure]

The instructions issued by the District Board President and the District Board Engineer on the subject of avenue planting now cover nearly 64 foolscap pages of typed or printed matter and a summary of them has become necessary. Where these instructions have been fully carried out, very encouraging results have been obtained, results sufficient to show that the slow growth generally attributed to some plants is mainly due to want of proper attention and the ignoring of some of the elementary principles governing plant life.

2. One distinguishing feature of avenue planting is its great length without breadth. This adds considerably to the cost of rearing the plants and no effort should be spared to hasten their growth after planting and no expenditure grudged which, by advancing the time when they are out of danger, tends to economy in the long run. Besides, a fast growth necessarily requires a uniformly healthy condition and trees so grown will always continue to have a pleasing shape and appearance. A slow or stunted growth at the beginning accounts for the shapeless forms of trees so frequently seen and every lover of trees can recall to his mind the frequent temptations he had to destroy such trees.

3. The chief points requiring attention to secure a fast and healthy growth will be briefly referred to as far as possible in the order of time. At the very outset, it may be stated that too much importance cannot be attached to (1) the necessity of rearing seedlings in pots in a well-managed nursery till they have a well-established root system, (2) the proper preparation of pits dug in advance, allowed to weather and then filled in with good soil (as distinguished from sub-soil) and manure wherever necessary, (3) the securing of fences absolutely proof even against that "arch-enemy of all arboriculture, the ubiquitous goat," (4) the soil round all plant about 2 feet wider than the shadow at noon being kept always free from vegetation of any kind and raked from time to time so as to be always tight and loose and (5) mulching that soil during the dry months of the year.

4. As soon as any planting is decided upon, a complete programme should be prepared showing the nature and cost of work to be done each year till the trees are out of danger as well as a calendar of all duties connected with it to ensure their being attended to in time. Samples of both are given in the printed memorandum of 13th May 1909.

Two years before the planting can be commenced in any place, a nursery should be started in the nearest possible place, where facilities for watering and supervision can be best secured. The seeds secured should be from well-seasoned fruits and all seeds defective in any way should be thrown away. The beds should be thoroughly well drained and may be in rows raised

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6 to 9 inches higher than the paths or drains separating them. The soil should be light and does not require any manure and the coverings layer should be generally as thick as the seeds themselves. After the seedlings have sprouted and grown sufficiently, they should be transplanted into small pots in time to allow this being done without in any way injuring the tap root. The plants may have to remain quite two years in the nursery to secure a well-established root system. Plants removed after a year from the nursery and put into the ground will no doubt for a time grow much larger than those remaining in the nursery but these latter when planted a year later are soon found to overtake the former. During the two years the plants remain in the nursery, they will have to be transferred periodically to larger pots probably about four times. Light rich soil is required for the pots and should be kept well drained. The pots should be full of soil almost up to the brim. Potted plants require watering every day, in the rainy season too when there has been no rain. But the watering should never be profuse. If this is regularly and judiciously done, there will be no water collecting at the surface when any watering is done. As, at every stage, unhealthy plants will have to be rejected, a larger number of seedlings should be raised than will be actually required. How much more depends entirely on the care with which the nursery is managed. With proper attention, about 20 per cent more should suffice.

5. Almost simultaneously with the starting of the nursery, should pits be dug, in the vicinity of the planting proposed, to prepare leaf mould required for the mulching of the soil round the plants in the dry season. These pits should be filled with dry leaves well pressed and trampled down and finally covered with a *thin coat* of soil. If this is not properly supervised, there is the danger of the pit being filled with more of soil than leaves. If any drain is required to intercept drainage, narrow deep trenches may be dug instead of pits. This will have the additional advantage of allowing the dry leaves to be filled in again as the leaf mould is removed. Any touch-me-not cleared on the road side may well be used for this purpose.

If manure is required, it is best to secure it at this stage and store it in pits so that it may get thoroughly rotten by the time it is used.

6. The pits to be prepared for planting may also now be dug so that they may get sufficiently weathered. The dimensions of the pits depend entirely on the soil. In hard soil they may be 5 to 6 feet in diameter. The first three feet of depth should be cylindrical; for the remaining two or three feet of depth, the hole may taper towards the centre. The soil about a foot or a foot and a half in depth and generally distinguishable from the sub-soil by its colour should be stored on one side and the sub-soil kept separately to replace the soil round the pits that will be removed for filling them.

When earth is excavated for road repairs, the top soil which is not good for this purpose may be reserved for filling in avenue pits. Silt cleared from the side drain may also be used. Any filling done long before planting should be dug up. Here a warning is necessary against the practice of depositing side drain earth round trees and plants or adding manure so as to form a basement round them. Such heaps induce the trees to form surface roots above the natural ground level, which must necessarily suffer during the dry weather.

It may be quite possible to make the pits from which materials are removed for road repairs serve the purpose of planting also. Where earth has

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been already removed to some depth along the line of planting and where such removal is likely to continue, it is better to do the planting at the lower level.

7. Materials for fencing should now be thought of and where these are costly and can be made use of again but are too heavy to be conveyed to a different place except at great cost it is desirable to plant only one-half or one-third of the number of plants finally required. The morning sun being more injurious to men and animals, the eastern side of a road should first be given preference over the western. The sun being nine months in the year in the south the southern side should have a similar preference.

A dry thorn fence if it can be maintained in good condition without the materials being stolen appears to be the best. One chief objection to it is the renewal it requires under ordinary conditions but if planting is done according to these instructions, it is found that the trees get out of danger before the fencing requires renewal. Open work of laterite is often too costly. When used they should be at least five feet high and where goats have to be feared, the gaps should not be more than three or four inches at the narrowest end. A table is appended showing how these cages are best constructed. Barbed wire fence has been tried and found to be a failure first against goats and then against other cattle. Mud walls shut out air and light from the plants, are a kind of furnace in the hot weather and foster all kinds of noxious weeds and should be avoided if possible. When used, it is not difficult to provide a large number of holes.

8. No hard and fast rules can be laid down for espacement. Where space permits it, the distance from tree to tree should be equal to the diameter of the crown of a fully developed tree and the distance from the margin of the used road should be half that diameter. For ordinary trees this diameter may be taken as 30 feet and so the trees should be planted 30 feet apart and 15 feet away from the margin of the used road.

9. The best time for planting appears to be when some light showers have heralded the approaching monsoon so that, when a month or more later the monsoon actually breaks, the plants will have sent their roots into the new ground and established themselves there. Some time in advance, all the pits should be filled sufficiently higher than the adjacent ground to allow for the unavoidable settlement. This filling in should never be of wet soil and should be of top soil and manure only, the soil previously kept apart and the soil about a foot away from the edge of the pit being used for the purpose. The filling in should overlap this foot of undug ground and the overlapping portion where the fence would naturally be constructed should be trodden down firmly so as to prevent any drainage water percolating through it into the loose soil in the pit. In sloping ground, a drain may have to be cut on the upper side of the pit to prevent drainage into the pit. The filling in should further slope upwards six to nine inches towards the centre. If the fencing takes some time to construct, this is the time to complete it. If the filling is done some little time before the planting, it will settle sufficiently and the surface has to be restored by a little more filling. If done just before planting, it is necessary to press down the filling a little so as to prevent an excessive settlement.

10. The planting is itself a simple process. Nevertheless some of the most fatal mistakes are made then. Quite a common mistake is to plant them

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too deep from a fancied analogy with the foundation of a building which of course cannot or should not grow downward. Trees like the coconut or the plantain may stand some such partial burial but generally there is no need to place the plants deeper than they were in the nursery and to ensure this, the nursery mark on the plant should be left visible. Another practice common throughout this country and unfortunately sanctioned in some of the standard works on road making is to put a number of seedlings, often of different varieties into the same pit, presumably under the impression that one or the other may survive. This practice cannot be too strongly condemned. If so planted, the young trees will compete for nourishment, moisture and light and will often all die in the struggle or survive as stunted and useless shrubs. In the few cases in which more than one tree survives in healthy condition, it is found hopeless in after years to remove one of them without destroying the balance and shape of the other. If plants are well looked after, there is no need to take any chances and the very few that may die or prove unhealthy can be replaced.

11. Props will be found necessary for almost all plants, particularly as these are not intended to be half buried. Besides, they enable the trees to have a clean, straight, vertical stem. The props should be quite rigid themselves and for this purpose, they require struts fixing them at a height of four to five feet above the ground. Great care is required in tying the plants to the prop. Flat dry plantain fibre can best be used for the purpose and a thick piece of the same can be placed round the plant as a sort of packing. The tying should be periodically redone. No mark of the tying should on any account be allowed to appear on the bark of the tree.

12. Many of the officers having charge of avenue planting are possessed by the one idea that ordering and paying for watering on a large scale will cover a multitude of sins. They do not even see that the watering paid for is done and the men employed are so doubtful about getting payment for all the watering ordered, on account of the inadequate results which they themselves fear, that they always take care to be on the safe side. The result is that some watering is done at inspection time which makes the surface cake and harden, induces the roots to come to the surface to be parched up afterwards and does on the whole more harm than good.

During the period elapsing between planting and the breaking of the monsoon, regular watering will be required. In the next season, a little watering, certainly not on the same scale every month, may be required, say about once in three days in April, May and June, once in five days in January, February and March and once a week in previous months if there has been no rain at all. Even this is capable of being farther reduced. It is best to arrange for this under proper supervision. When watering is done, the ground should be periodically raked to prevent its hardening. If the plants grow properly, no watering should be necessary in subsequent seasons. Nevertheless if the plants are found to suffer from the drought, an occasional profuse watering may be specially arranged for under proper supervision. The mere fact of a plant not growing should not be taken as due to any drought. Plants also require and take rest.

Water is really required a little below the surface. On the surface itself, it is merely wasted and does more harm than good and it is well worth trying

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to secure moisture below, without wetting the surface. If the soil is loose, water poured into broken necks of pots placed round the tree will secure this object.

All the water poured should collect uniformly round the tree but not near the stem and no portion should flow away nor should the watering from and pit. No watering should be permitted between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

13. Far more important than watering is the prevention of the soil around the plant from hardening. It should be kept raked from time to time and should be loose and light. No grass, weed or any kind of vegetation should be allowed. These rob the plants of moisture not only for themselves but also form a medium for passing the moisture in the soil into the atmosphere. Even after the plants have developed into young trees and are out of danger, a digging should be given round them both at the beginning and the end of the monsoon. In the first digging it may be sufficient if the clod is broken and overturned; in the second, it should be pulverised. With the first digging any manure thought necessary should be added. As manure will hasten the growth of the plants, it is worth while to incur expenditure on this account. It may be added in varying proportions to different plants to see how far this expenditure is justified. Tank silt and other such rich deposits charred (not burnt) with alternate layers of a litter of dry leaves and twigs and covered with the same soil in such a manner as not to allow the smoke to escape have almost a startling effect on plants.

14. As soon as the dry season commences, the soil round the stem 2 feet wider than the shadow at noon should be covered to a depth of 2 inches with leaf mould or decayed vegetable matter already referred to in paragraph 5. Any watering done should be over this mulched soil. The moisture is then retained much longer and the soil will then neither cake nor crack and the tender roots will not be injured.

15. If the instructions in paragraphs 12 and 13 are fully carried out, there will be no necessity for fire-tracing to protect the plants or trees from being injured by the dry grass in the vicinity taking fire. It will really pay to employ a person who takes interest in the planting to watch their growth from time to time, remove the caterpillars or other insects that injure them and generally to see that all causes that hinder the growth in any way are promptly removed. A system of rewards depending on the healthy growth of plants will have a salutary effect and such discrimination between good and bad work will prove a powerful incentive for good work.

16. The places where rearing of avenue plants is easiest will doubtless receive the first attention. It should, however, not be forgotten that places where they are difficult to rear are often where avenue trees are most required. In a rock plateau devoid of all vegetation, sufficiently large pits may be dug and filled with good soil. This may give a sufficient start to the plants and, if a proper selection of some hardy variety be made, the trees may be able to send their roots into the rock. Where the rock gets hardened, by weathering, the filling in should be done as soon as the pits are opened. At least a little in this direction should be done every year and the road specification may provide for this being done at least in one place in every such furlong. In some cases the excavated soil may be useful for road repairs. Where loose soil is difficult to obtain, all the side drain silt should be stored till it is sufficient to fill in one pit.

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(2)

G.O. No. 2706, L. & M., dated 4th December 1923.

An extract from the Administration report of the Madura District Board for 1922-23 on the substantial results of the policy adopted by that Board in regard to the maintenance and development of avenues is communicated to all other local bodies for information.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

P. L. MOORE,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To all Presidents of District Boards.
" Presidents of Taluk Boards.
" Chairmen of Municipal Councils.
" Collectors.

Copy to the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

APPENDIX.

*Extract from the Administration report of the Madura District Board
for the year 1922-23.*

Tree-planting.—With a view to the proper care of avenues and making them a source of revenue to the District Board as well as a joy to travellers, an attempt has been made to develop a scheme on a sound basis. To make a beginning, a small staff consisting of an avenue superintendent on Rs. 100 plus Rs. 35 fixed travelling allowance, a maistri on Rs. 15, a gardener and an avenue coolie on Rs. 10 each per mensem was appointed in 1921 and continued to work in the present year. The avenue superintendent was trained at Dehra Dun and was strongly recommended by Mr. Cox, the Chief Conservator. This establishment is under the direct control of the President, District Board.

The results already obtained abundantly prove how neglected this subject has been in the past and the great profit that may be expected in the future.

The work of the avenue superintendent has been hitherto chiefly of a preliminary character, as a start from the very beginning has had to be made. The avenue trees in the whole district have been carefully re-numbered and an avenue register has been prepared and is nearly completed showing the following details: serial number of tree, kind, size and approximate market value at the time of last inspection. The register will be brought up-to-date every year, and will also show the disappearance of trees, the cause (windfall or sale), how disposed of, and the value realized. Thus a complete record will be kept of every avenue tree in the district. Incidentally it is of interest to note that the total capital value of the trees now standing in avenues throughout the district amounts on this rough calculation to nearly a crore of rupees.

Generally speaking a tree reaches its maximum value on attaining full maturity. After that, it gradually deteriorates until it dies. In the case of timber trees therefore it is uneconomical to allow a tree to stand after it has attained its full growth. Fruit trees on the other hand continue to yield

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revenue until they cease bearing fruit, when they may still be at the maximum value from the point of view of timber or firewood. Accepting these two principles, which have been entirely ignored in the past, an attempt will be made by careful selection to realize the full market value of every tree. Wanton felling merely for the sake of revenue will be scrupulously avoided as in many cases the real value of a tree is the amount of shade it gives.

The district is singularly fortunate in the fact that some of the great pre-British rulers of the country devoted great attention to the planting of avenues. Especially is this so in the case of Queen Mangammal, one of the last of the Naiks (Circa A.D. 1730). Her roads are still known as 'Mangammal Salais' and her avenues are still standing. Unfortunately, every storm exacts its toll and in many places, especially in recent years, numbers of trees have disappeared. It must be observed that her chief object in planting avenues was to give shade to travellers and her trees are almost entirely shade-trees; but there is no reason at all why this object should not be combined with profit by a more careful selection of the trees to be planted.

The operations of the avenue superintendent are at present confined to a radius of ten miles from Madura, that is practically the Madura taluk. The register above referred to, however, is for the whole district.

A nursery was started last year with the kind permission of the Collector in the compound of the Tamukkam bungalow and was continued this year. Seedlings are transplanted from seed-beds into pots before they are taken to the road-side. The chief plants that have thus been reared are casuarina, vagai, margosa, tamarind, punga, kounai and rain trees. It is found by observation that these trees grow best in this district. A casuarina plantation has already been begun on local fund poramboke by the road-side at Uthangudi about three miles from Madura on the Madura-Melur road at a cost to date of Rs. 587. An arecanut plantation was first tried on this spot but proved a failure. Many of the casuarina plants have grown to a height of 7 feet and have cost about 7 annas each for the first year. The rate of growth is so satisfactory that the plants may not need watering after the second year. Three hundred and six avenue trees have been planted on road No. 3 (Madura-Parapatti) for a distance of about two miles beyond municipal limits at a cost of Rs. 215. Two hundred and thirty-five plants have also been planted in the second and third miles of road No. 4 (Madura to Virudupatti) costing Rs. 188.

The planting and maintenance of avenues have hitherto been in the hands of the Engineering Department and estimates have been sanctioned without much knowledge of what was being done though it must be admitted that in some places fine results have been shown. The avenue superintendent has now been deputed to examine the estimates before they are sanctioned and this has resulted in a large saving. Thus the estimates for maintaining avenues for this year have been cut down from Rs. 10,625 to Rs. 8,600 after careful scrutiny.

As an instance of what can be done by the sale of judiciously selected trees under proper supervision it may be mentioned that the avenue superintendent was ordered to choose a number of vagai trees in the sixth and seventh miles of road No. 27. The Vice-President presided at the auction and 19 trees fetched a sum of Rs. 1,613. Formerly these trees would probably have been sold by maistris and sub-overseers for trifling sums. The

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avenue on this road is very dense and the felling of the trees has caused no noticeable gaps. Similarly 13 trees on road No. 3 realized a sum of Rupees 1,139 in the current year. These operations will be extended to other roads.

A list showing local fund porambokes measuring over half an acre suitable for planting trees is almost ready and it is proposed to take early steps to plant them up with trees yielding fuel, where they are within easy reach of Madura and with coconut, etc., trees in other places.

Plantations in markets were not made during the year under report. The scheme outlined in the preceding paragraphs has only just been begun and the other local boards have not yet had a chance of working together. But it is hoped that they will all do so in the near future.

(3)

G.O. No. 1448, L. & M., dated 30th May 1924.

The attention of all local bodies is again invited to G.O. No. 2706, L. & M., dated 4th December 1923, communicating to them the substantial results achieved by the Madura District Board by the adoption of a systematic policy for the maintenance and development of avenues. It is hoped that every effort will be made to develop this important source of revenue to local bodies and comfort to the travelling public.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

F. L. MOORE,

Acting Secretary to Government.

To all Presidents of District Boards.
 „ all Presidents of Taluk Boards.
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